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# INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY ARCHIVES OF ILLINOIS

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ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY

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## ST. CLAIR COUNTY ( BELLEVILLE No 88 )

ILLINOIS HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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1966



INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY ARCHIVES  
OF ILLINOIS

Prepared by

The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project  
Division of Professional and Service Projects  
Work Projects Administration

No. 88. ST. CLAIR COUNTY (BELLEVILLE)

\* \* \* \* \*

Chicago, Illinois  
The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project  
September 1939

The Historical Records Survey Program

Luther H. Evans, Director  
Royal S. Van de Woestyne, State Supervisor

Division of Professional and Service Projects

Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner  
Alma B. Kerr, Chief Regional Supervisor  
Mary Gillette Moon, State Director

WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

F. C. Harrington, Commissioner  
George Field, Regional Director  
Charles E. Miner, State Administrator

## FOREWORD

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The Inventory of the County Archives of Illinois is one of a number of bibliographies of historical material prepared throughout the United States by workers on The Historical Records Survey Program of the Work Projects Administration. The publication herewith presented, an inventory of the archives of St. Clair County, is number 88 of the Illinois series.

The Historical Records Survey Program was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic, and social history. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by the officials of the county, and also the needs of lawyers, business men, and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalog for printed sources.

The inventories produced by The Historical Records Survey Program attempt to do more than give merely a list of records - they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and other local inventories for the entire country will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as a bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of The Historical Records Survey Program, even in a single county, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The Survey Program was organized and has been directed by Luther H. Evans, and operates as a nation-wide series of locally sponsored projects in the Division of Professional and Service Projects, of which Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner, is in charge.

F. C. Harrington  
Commissioner





## PREFACE

The Historical Records Survey Program was initiated as a nation-wide undertaking in January, 1936, as part of the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration, now the Work Projects Administration. In Illinois the Survey became an independent unit in August, 1936, but continued to operate as a part of the nation-wide project under the technical supervision of Dr. Luther H. Evans, National Director, and under the administrative supervision of the Division of Professional and Service Projects. Alston G. Field and Howard E. Colgan were the first two state directors, the former serving until November 1, 1937, and the latter to May 16, 1939. On September 1, 1939, the Illinois State Library, of which Secretary of State Edward J. Hughes is State Librarian and Helene H. Rogers, Superintendent of State Library Divisions, assumed the sponsorship of The Historical Records Survey Program in this state.

In compiling this inventory of the archives of St. Clair County, the Survey Program has sought to locate, describe, and classify all extant county records and to make them more easily accessible to county officials, the general public, and research workers. It is believed that this Inventory will be useful in the preservation of this valuable material, and as a guide to the archives wherein may be found so much important information in the field of history, sociology, political science, and economics. While some historians have realized this for many years, the general public has never been made aware of the intrinsic worth of this material. In the official documents of St. Clair County are found the materials of another chapter in the story of the coming into the Illinois wilderness of settlers who created a territory and the rudiments of a simple frontier government, bought and sold land, built roads, established schools, and later founded a state.

The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project has proved to be of considerable assistance to local and county governments. Records have been rearranged and made more accessible, material believed to be lost has been located, indexing projects have been fostered, and county officials have been encouraged and induced to provide new equipment for their offices and better storage space for the records.

In addition, the program of the Project has been planned to dovetail with the long-range plans of the State of Illinois for the care of state and local archives. For example, the first step, the removal of all state records to a new Archives Building, has been materially aided by the preparation of preliminary inventories by survey workers for the various state departments. Furthermore, the program of the State for the preservation of county records, including the making of microphotographic copies of all important historical documents, obviously presupposes inventories such as The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project is now making.

The inventories being compiled by The Historical Records Survey Program also make possible for the first time a scientific study of the

question of record destruction. Under Illinois law no records may be destroyed without specific enabling legislation. This provision, together with the tremendous increase in the quantity of records in recent years, has made it impossible for either the state or the counties to take care of the documents adequately. Hence, a certain amount of record destruction has been inevitable. If, as seems probable, a study of these inventories should lead to the enactment of adequate and sensible legislation governing the disposition of public records, these compilations may prove to be the most important contribution of the Survey.

Preliminary work on the survey of records in St. Clair County, the eighty-eighth county on the alphabetically arranged list of the one hundred and two counties in Illinois, was begun under the supervision of Kenneth C. Blood on March 10, 1936, and finished as far as possible September 21, 1936. Rechecking was begun September 21, 1937 and completed November 9, 1938. Abstracting and transcribing of county board records was started July 23, 1938 and completed July 17, 1939. This work was supplemented by additional research into other county records, and also into the laws, in order to trace fully the development of the different forms of government in St. Clair County.

The Inventory was prepared for publication by the state editorial staff of The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project at Chicago, under the supervision of Herbert R. Rifkind. Preparation of part B of the Inventory was under the direction of Martine O'Connor; Irving E. Barnett supervised the preparation of the legal essays; the historical sketch was written by Kathleen Summitt; and the format was prepared and collated by Edward J. McDonough. In addition, too much credit cannot be given to the other members of the editorial, research, and typing staffs for their intelligent and diligent cooperation in the compilation of this Inventory.

All of the officers of St. Clair County cooperated in every possible way with the workers, and grateful acknowledgment of their aid is hereby made. I also wish to express appreciation for the assistance rendered by the officials of the Illinois Work Projects Administration and the Illinois Writers' Project. For the cover design we are indebted to the Illinois Art Project.

The various units of the Inventory of the County Archives of Illinois will be available for distribution to governmental offices, libraries, schools, and historical societies in Illinois, and libraries and governmental agencies in other states. Requests for information concerning particular units of the Inventory should be addressed to the State Supervisor.

*Royal S. Van de Woestyne*  
Royal S. Van de Woestyne  
State Supervisor  
The Illinois Historical Records  
Survey Project

September 30, 1939

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## 1. HISTORICAL SKETCH

### Introduction

#### Location

St. Clair County, oldest of Illinois counties, lies along the Mississippi River in the southern quarter of the state. To the north is Madison County, on the east, Clinton and Washington, and on the south Randolph and Monroe. The western boundary is formed in part by the Kaskaskia River, in part by the diagonal line of Monroe County, and in part by the Mississippi River. The area embraced by these boundaries is 680 square miles.

#### Physical Characteristics

The western part of the county, along the river, lies in the fertile and historic section known since the days of the Spanish occupation of old Louisiana as the American Bottoms.<sup>1</sup> Beginning near the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi, the Bottoms stretch for nearly a hundred miles toward the mouth of the Kaskaskia. The entire strip once lay within St. Clair County,<sup>2</sup> but with the progressive changes in county lines through a century and a half, all but about twelve miles of the upper reach has been included within the boundaries of other counties.

The rich bottom land "like historic Egypt is the gift of a river, and like it is submerged at intervals, although not periodically, by the fertilizing waters which give it birth."<sup>3</sup> The bottom varies from three to seven miles in width, reaching eastward from the river to a line of bluffs that borders its entire length. These are "principally composed of Lime and Free Stone, and are one hundred to one hundred and thirty feet high, divided in several places by deep cavities, through which many small rivulets pass before they fall into the Mississippi. The sides of these hills, fronting this River, are in many places perpendicular - and appear like solid pieces of masonry."<sup>4</sup> Running through the limestone, particularly at the northern

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1. G. W. Featherstonhaugh, Excursion Through the Slave States from Washington on the Potomac to the Frontier of Mexico (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1844), p. 63.
  2. 1790-95. See maps, Counties of Illinois, Their Origin and Evolution (compiled and published by Edward J. Hughes, Springfield, 1934), p. 16ff.
  3. Cahokia Records 1778-1790, ed. Clarence W. Alvord in Illinois Historical Collections II, Virginia Series, I (Springfield: Illinois Historical Library, 1907), p. xiii.
  4. Thomas Hutchins, An Historical Narrative and Topographical Description of West Florida. (Philadelphia, 1784), p. 106.



## Historical Sketch

end of the bluffs, are veins of coal which early attracted the attention of travellers and prospective settlers in the region,<sup>1</sup> and later became a considerable source of wealth for the county.

For the width of a mile or so along the river, the Bottoms were once heavily forested with giant trees, thickly undergrown with brush and interwoven with vines. Though the junglelike growth has long since disappeared, some timber still remains along the river bank below the confines of East St. Louis.

Rising gently from forestland to the bluffs extends the fertile lowland, "yielding shrubs and most fragrant flowers, which added to the number and extent of meadows and ponds dispersed through this charming valley, render it exceedingly beautiful and agreeable."<sup>2</sup>

Above the bluffs, the upland prairies stretch eastward beyond the county lines. They are divided by well-timbered streams, those in the northern and western part of the county cutting down through the bluffs and flowing directly to the Mississippi, and those in the eastern and southern part emptying into the Kaskaskia River. Through St. Clair County the Kaskaskia is a considerable stream with a broad belt of timber on its banks and wide bottom lands rich for cultivation.<sup>3</sup> Into the Kaskaskia flow, from the south and east, Mud and Little Mud creeks, Lively Branch, and Doza Creek, and from the north, Silver<sup>4</sup> and Richland creeks with their widespreading tributaries. Prairie du Long Creek waters the southwestern part of the county, meeting the waters of the Mississippi outside the county. From the watershed between the Kaskaskia and the Mississippi, Canteen Creek and Cahokai Creek, known to the French as the River Labbe,<sup>5</sup> in the north, and Prairie du Pont Creek farther south, cross the uplands along the bluffs and meander through the Bottoms to the Mississippi.

Lakes and ponds are numerous, and for the most part small, some of them drying up completely in the summer. Clear Lake, or Grand Marais, in

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1. G. W. Featherstonhaugh, an English traveller with a geological turn of mind, crossing from Pittsburg to St. Louis in 1834, speculates of them, "It would seem that all these seams are but sections of one great contemporaneous deposit underlying all this part of the prairie country, and which, perhaps, at some ancient time was connected with the coal fields betwixt it and the Atlantic." Excursion through the Slave States, p. 66.
  2. Hutchins, Topographical Description, p. 107.
  3. John Mason Peck, A Gazetteer of Illinois (Philadelphia: Grigg & Elliot, 1837), p. 283.
  4. So named from a local tradition that the French had mined a large quantity of silver on its banks at a place near Rock Spring. Peck, *op. cit.*, p. 15.
  5. County Record, v. 1, p. 90.



## Historical Sketch

the Bottoms is one of the largest. In early times the lakes and sloughs, spreading unchecked over wide areas each spring, made travel both difficult and dangerous. With the settling of the country and swamp lands have been largely brought into subjection by drainage systems.<sup>1</sup>

It was along the watercourses that the settlers made their first homes. The French never penetrated far beyond the Mississippi except on trading or missionary expeditions, and the American immigrants chose the wooded environment to which their former lives had accustomed them. They saw life for themselves and their beasts in the running water. The forest furnished them, as it had in a more primitive way the red men before them, with the materials for shelter, fuel, food, and the implements for their labor. The trees were of many kinds and served many purposes. The geographer Hutchins, describing the American Bottoms in 1778, says "it produces fine oak, hickory, cedar, mulberry trees, etc. Some Dying roots and medicinal plants; ... Hops, and excellent wild Grapes, and, in the year 1769, one hundred and ten hogsheads of well tasted and strong wine were made by the French Settlers from these Grapes, ... A large quantity of Sugar is also annually made from the juice of the Maple tree."<sup>2</sup> Mulberries grew in such abundance that it was at one time expected that the production of silk worms would become an important industry.<sup>3</sup> There were pawpaw, persimmon, wild cherry, plum, and crabapple of the fruit trees; walnut, hickory, and pecan of the nut-bearing varieties; besides ash, elm, hackberry, white, black, burr, water, Spanish, and post oak, maple, cottonwood, sycamore, sassafras, and boxelder. The heaviest growths of timber have disappeared before an axe-wielding civilization, in particular the finer building woods such as walnut, maple, and red and white oak, have become rare, but the streams of St. Clair County are far from being denuded of trees.

Between the wooded creeks lie the prairies, open spaces sometimes miles in extent, and as the early travellers saw them, "a sort of ocean of land, a few trees only being visible in some point of the horizon, as palms are seen on the desert prairie of Egypt."<sup>4</sup> They were covered with thick, deep grass and were vivid with wild flowers. One of the most extensive and beautiful in St. Clair County was the Looking Glass Prairie, a tract twenty miles long and from six to ten miles wide, lying between Silver and Sugar creeks.<sup>5</sup> Others, somewhat smaller, were Ogle's and Ridge prairies in the northern part of the county, Prairie du Pont and Bottom Prairie in the western, and Plum Creek and Twelve Mile prairies in the southern portion. The soil in the high prairie land, though not of the richness of the alluvial bottoms, is fertile and productive of a considerable variety of crops.

There was something about the prairies that repelled the earliest settlers. Coming, as most of them did, from the backwoods of Virginia and

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1. See Special Drainage Commissioners, this Inventory, Chapter XVIII, p. 278.
  2. Topographical Description, p. 114.
  3. Ibid., p. 115; Peck, Gazetteer, p. 30.
  4. Featherstonhaugh, Excursion through the Slave States, p. 63,
  5. Peck, op. cit., p. 243.

Kentucky, they felt uneasy in the open spaces, although they realized their enormous potentiality as farm lands. It seemed to them easier to swing their axes upon the trees, clearing ground for their crops and at the same time getting out logs to build their homes, than it did to break the tough prairie sod with their primitive, homemade plows. The devastating fires that swept the prairies were another deterrent. It was some years before the prairies were used for anything other than a place to hunt game. As late as 1837, Peck wrote of Looking Glass Prairie, "Extensive Settlements are on its border, and project into its interior."<sup>1</sup>

Another type of land found in St. Clair County is that known as "barrens." Peck explains that in the language of the Illinois this "does not indicate poor land, but a species of surface of a mixed character, uniting forest and prairie . . . The timber is scattering, of a rough and stunted appearance, interspersed with patches of hazle and brushwood."<sup>2</sup> They lie usually near the headwaters or along the upper courses of streams, where the ground is fairly high. Curiously enough, the barrens attracted inhabitants before the prairies did, and we find settlements thriving in the barrens, when only the most venturesome souls had penetrated the interior of the prairies.<sup>3</sup>

#### Animal Life

All the beauty and the fertility of this region might not have made it the early dwelling place for human inhabitants that it was, had not an abundance of game flourished in forest, prairie, and stream. Buffalo ran in plenty until the latter part of the eighteenth century, but by 1800 the depredations of hunters, Indian and white, had caused them to disappear. Herds of deer and elk abounded, raccoons, opossums, foxes, squirrels, and rabbits were numerous. The brown bear by 1820, was "retreating before the advance of civilization," but "wolves, panthers, and wild cats are as yet very numerous,"<sup>4</sup> Indeed, the wolves seemed to increase rather than diminish in number and constituted such a menace to the settlers that in 1817 the bounty on their scalps was raised in St. Clair County, from seventy-five cents to two dollars.<sup>5</sup> Ducks, geese, swans, pelicans, and cranes were plentiful in the marshes and sloughs, turkeys, pheasant, and partridges in the barrens and uplands. Fish of many varieties were found in the rivers.

#### Climate

To offset the prodigal fecundity of the soil and the rich abundance

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1. Peck, Gazetteer, p. 243.
  2. Ibid., p. 9.
  3. Peck, in the section of the Gazetteer on towns, settlements, and streams, names a number of settlements as being in barrens, at the same time noting of the prairies that a few farms were beginning to appear at their edges.
  4. Lewis Bock, Gazetteer of the States of Illinois & Missouri (Albany: Webster, 1823), p. 40.
  5. County Record, v. 2, p. 21.

## Historical Sketch

of game, there was one serious drawback - the unhealthful climate of the region, particularly of the Bottoms. The warmth, the rank vegetation, the heavy moisture, and the prevalence of mosquitoes, gave rise to numerous ills among the unacclimated immigrants.<sup>1</sup> The Indians, perhaps because of their habit of frequently changing locations, were not much troubled. The French inhabitants, too, were little affected, as long as they pursued life according to their own regime; but Beck observes of them in 1823 that those "who reside along this stream (Cahokia Creek) . . . formerly enjoyed good health; but that fevers have been much more frequent among them since Mill Dams have been erected. Near the upper dam on the bottom of the same creek, scarcely an individual has been known to spend the summer and autumn without an attack of fever . . . ." <sup>2</sup> Even so enthusiastic a promoter of the Illinois County as John Mason Peck did not hesitate to warn prospective settlers of the climatic dangers.<sup>3</sup>

With the reduction of indigenous vegetation, the drainage of swamp land, in addition to the natural immunity developed by the inhabitants and the increase of medical knowledge, the amount of disease attributable to the climate lessened, until in recent times the St. Clair County region is accounted no less healthful than any other portion of the state.

## Population

In 1837, the first year since the establishment of the present boundaries for which we have statistics, there were 1,030 people in the county.<sup>4</sup> By 1860 the number had increased to 37,694,<sup>5</sup> in 1890 to 66,571, and in 1910 to 119,870.<sup>6</sup> The census of 1930 shows a population of 157,775.<sup>7</sup>

St. Clair is in congressional district twenty-two and senatorial district forty-nine. It sends one member to the Senate of the General Assembly and three to the House of Representatives. For judicial purposes, it is attached to the first district.

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1. "Poisonous night dews - caused by the marshes, and the miasm of their decomposing and putrifying vegetation, occasion, with the sultriness of the climate, bilious intermittents, and the far-famed and far-dreaded 'fever and Ague' not infrequently terminating in consumption. This circumstance, indeed, presents the grand obstacle to the settlement of the American Bottom." Edmund Flagg, "The Far West" in R. G. Thwaites Early Western Travels (Cleveland: A. H. Clark Company, 1904-1907), XXVII, 106.
  2. Gazetteer of the States of Illinois and Missouri, p. 94.
  3. Gazetteer, p. 6.
  4. Ibid., p. 317.
  5. History of St. Clair County (Philadelphia: Brink and McDonough, 1881), p. 73.
  6. Illinois, Number and Distribution of Inhabitants, Population Bulletin (Washington: United States Bureau of the Census, 1930), p. 9.
  7. Ibid.



## Early Civilizations

The Mounds

That this rich region has attracted human inhabitants from time immemorial is shown by indisputable evidence. In the upper end of the American Bottom is one of the most extensive and remarkable remains of prehistoric civilization in North America. Although mounds are dotted pretty generally along the borders of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, the area of greatest concentration begins near Alton and extends as far as Cairo. A part of the remains consists of traceable village sites and level burial grounds, but the most singular feature is the mounds that rise conspicuously above the surface of the land. The largest group of them lies near the border between Madison and St. Clair counties, along Cahokia and Canteen creeks and the drainage canal. The number of mounds represented on the official map made by the expedition of the Department of Anthropology of the University of Illinois in 1927, is eighty-five. It is estimated that in earlier days, when they extended much farther down the creek covering the land now occupied by the cattle pens, packing plants, factories, and railroad yards of East St. Louis, their number must have been between two and three hundred.<sup>1</sup>

The mounds vary in shape, as they do in size. Some are dome shaped, some truncated cones or pyramids, the bases of some circular or elliptical, of others square or rectangular. Nearly all have had their outlines blurred by many years of cultivation, and many smaller ones can now be located only by slight rises in the land suggestive of their presence.

What manner of people lived here? What was their culture, and what relation, if any, did they bear to the Indians of historic times? When were they living in their villages, when did they build their mounds, and for what purpose? For over a hundred years these questions have been the subject of speculation by travellers and residents of the region and of research by anthropologists and archeologists. The questions are still for the most part unanswered, but the interest in their solution is in no way abated.

One of the earliest accounts of exploration of the mounds in that of H. M. Brackenridge who visited the region in 1811;<sup>2</sup> Edmund Flagg<sup>3</sup> in 1836-37, and G. W. Featherstonhaugh<sup>4</sup> in 1844, recorded their observations.<sup>5</sup>

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1. Warren K. Moorehead, The Cahokia Mounds, Bulletin of the University of Illinois. (Urbana, 1927), V.XXVI, no. 4, p. 13ff.
  2. Views of Louisiana (Pittsburg, 1814), p. 188, 287.
  3. "The Far West" in Thwaites, Early Western Travels, XXVI, 119, 120; XXVII, 187-97.
  4. Excursion through the Slave States, p. 67.
  5. All these writers were more concerned with Monk's, or Cahokia Mound, than with the surrounding ones. Since this mound, the largest of them all, is in Madison County, detailed discussion of it lies outside the limits of this sketch.

## Historical Sketch

One of the first scientific expeditions to visit the mounds was that under the command of Major Stephen Long of the Topographical Engineers, in 1819. Long counted seventy-five mounds, took measurements of the most prominent ones, and made a few excavations, discovering human bones and specimens of pottery.<sup>1</sup> He made careful notes, but ventured no conclusions. The first work in scientific excavation was done by Dr. Rau of the Smithsonian Institution in 1860; in the next forty years important contributions to the information on the mounds were made by Dr. MacAdams, curator of the Illinois State Museum, Dr. J. J. R. Patrick of Belleville, and Dr. J. F. Snyder of Virginia, Illinois.<sup>2</sup> Under the direction of Dr. Patrick about 1880, the mound area was surveyed by County Surveyor Hilyard, and a map made.<sup>3</sup> At the time these men were working, and even when David Bushnell of the Peabody Institute was making his explorations in the early years of the present century,<sup>4</sup> the mounds had not yet been levelled by an expanding city, or partially obliterated by cultivation, so that they were able to gather a great deal of valuable data both as to the physical characteristics of the tumuli and as to their contents, which is no longer available. In the years 1922, 1923, 1924, and 1927, the University of Illinois had exploring parties in the field, who, with the consent of the owners, have made extensive and careful excavations, with photographs and drawings of each mound, showing the positions of the bodies, artifacts, and all other evidences of the culture of the builders. Material taken from the mounds has been marked, tabulated, and described for later comparison. These studies constitute the most recent and exact additions to the body of knowledge of the mounds.<sup>5</sup>

Another small group of mounds exists near Lebanon, in which the University group has made some examinations. The theory that the inhabitants of the two areas communicated with each other is upheld by a statement of John Mason Peck to Dr. Snyder that within his memory "a deeply worn trail could

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1. Stephen Long, Account of an Expedition from Pittsburg to the Rocky Mountains (London: Longmans, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown, 1823), p. 59; notes, p. 310-14; also contained in Smithsonian Institution Annual Report 1861, p. 386.
  2. Dr. Rau's findings are in the Report of the Smithsonian Institution 1866, p. 346-55; for MacAdams', see Proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, August 1880, p. 710-18; for Dr. Patrick's, see Twelfth Annual Report of the Peabody Museum, p. 472, and article on "Monk's Mound," St. Louis Globe-Democrat, February 5, 1888; for Snyder's, consult Journal of the Illinois Historical Society, v. 1, 2, 4, 10.
  3. The original of the map is in the possession of the Missouri Historical Society, and a model of the center of the group, made from this map by David I. Bushnell, is in the Peabody Museum of American Archeology and Anthropology.
  4. See David I. Bushnell, "Cahokia and Surrounding Mound Groups" in Papers of Peabody Museum (Cambridge: Peabody Museum of American Archeology and Anthropology, 1904-1913), III, 5-20.
  5. The Cahokia Mounds, Bulletin of the University of Illinois, 1922, v. XIX, no. 35; 1923, v. XXI, no. 6; 1928, v. XXVI, no. 4.

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readily be traced from Emerald Mound through the dense woods, crossing Silver Creek . . . to and down the bluffs . . . directly to the mound on Cahokia Creek."<sup>1</sup>

Within the mounds have been found innumerable burials, both group and individual, some of the bodies drawn up into a sitting position, some outstretched; hearth places and probable altar places, the remains of ancient fires still visible upon them; implements of war and the hunt, such as knives, spearheads, and arrowheads of flint or chert, some of them of finest workmanship; articles of domestic use, including axes and celts chipped from flint or hematite, plates and pots of various sizes and marked with differing types of decoration, shell spoons, and awls and needles of bone; objects of decoration and leisure-time use - nose and ear ornaments, strings of beads and shells, and pipes, many with the bowls either of moulded clay or of sandstone carved into effigies of birds, frogs, and occasionally of human heads; marine shells; and stone figurines of animal and human shapes, the use of which - whether for purposes of worship or simply for decoration - has not been determined.<sup>2</sup>

It is from the mass of such materials as these, collected and studied in comparison with similar materials from other locations and from known cultures, that most of the light we will ever have on the lives of these ancient people will be shod. Much material has fallen into the hands of private collectors and the merely curious, and thus has been lost to science. But with what has been preserved a good beginning has been made, and the field is rich for further studies.

On the evidence thus far amassed, none of the students of the mounds has had the temerity to offer a definite answer to the problems they present, although several theories have been advanced. One or two statements can be made with assurance: the mounds are of artificial origin and of varying antiquity, and they present either the cultures of several successive groups, or successive (but not necessarily progressive) phases in the culture of a singled people. Anything more conclusive must await the further extension of scientific exploration and the collection and comparison of the data.

Realizing the importance of these ancient monuments, a large group of organizations and individuals sought to insure their preservation. The result of their activities was that the stato legislatura in 1923 passed an act for the acquisition of 144 acres embracing the central mound group, and lying partly in St. Clair County, partly in Madison, and set off the area as Cahokia Mounds State Park.<sup>3</sup>

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1. Moorehead, The Cahokia Mounds, Bulletin of the University of Illinois, v. XXVI, no. 4, p. 22.
  2. See illustrations in Moorehead, The Cahokia Mounds, op. cit., p. 177ff.
  3. L.1923, p. 21.



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### Indians of Historic Times

One of the more tenable theories of the mounds suggests that some of the later of them may have been built by Muskhogean people, particularly the Natchez group, since a striking similarity exists between the implements, and particularly the pottery found in some of the mounds, and the vessels described by travellers within historic times as being in use among the Natchez on the lower Mississippi.<sup>1</sup>

Among all Indian tribes exist stories and traditions of the life of the tribe in various locations. By a careful collation and comparison of these traditions, scholars have been able to trace the movements of various groups over the country with a fair degree of probability. One of the great migrations so traced is that of the Siouan nation which is thought to have taken place prior to the discovery of the Mississippi in 1541.<sup>2</sup> The tribes pushed westward from their early home in the eastern part of the United States, dividing so that one great branch went northward along the lakes, another group moving down the Ohio. One tribe of the southern group - the Quapaw, or downstream people - shows evidence in its culture of contact with the Muskhogean peoples. Of the northern branch, or upstream people, the Iowa, Missouri, Oto, and Winnebago tribes have traditions of living in the Lakes region and migrating south and west. Since these tribes later dwelt across the Mississippi in what are now the states of Iowa and Missouri, it is not improbable that they once had homes or hunting grounds in the American Bottom country and eastward. As the Siouan tribes continued to move farther west, their places were taken by Algonquian peoples, another large and important Indian family. This brings us to historic times, for which records are extant, as the Illinois tribe belonged to the Algonquian group.

The Illinois nation - whose name in their native tongue was Illiniwek, meaning "men" - were first encountered by white men at La Pointe, Wisconsin, where Father Allouez found them in 1669.<sup>3</sup> Their territory extended south of the Great Lakes, and from the divide between the Wabash and Illinois rivers on the east, and to some distance beyond the Mississippi on the west.<sup>4</sup> The nation was formed of a number of related tribes, the Illiniwek proper, and the Peoria, Michigamea, Moingwena, Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Tamaroa tribes, who had banded into a confederacy for protection against their enemies, particularly the Iroquois. On his journey down the

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1. Particularly La Page du Pratz who travelled in the Mississippi Valley in the 1770's and described his observations in his Histoire de la Louisiane (London: T. Becket, 1774). For a discussion of the Muskhogean theory see Alvord, The Illinois Country (Springfield: Illinois Centennial Commission, 1920), p. 25-27.
  2. Wm. McGee, "The Siouan Indians" in Fifteenth Annual Report 1893-94, Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of Ethnology, p. 191.
  3. Alvord, op. cit., p. 103.
  4. Hiram W. Beckwith, "Illinois and Indiana Indians" in Fergus Historical Series, no. 27 (Chicago: Fergus Printing Co., 1884), p. 100.

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Mississippi in 1683, La Salle encountered a group of the latter two tribes living ten leagues below the mouth of the Missouri.<sup>1</sup> The Tamaroa had formerly had a village in the vicinity of Turkey Hill, but had joined, for strength, with the Cahokias near the mouth of Cahokia Creek.

The culture of the Illinois was essentially that of the eastern woods-people, although in their life on the Illinois prairies they acquired the buffalo-hunting customs of the plains people. They dwelt in more or less permanent villages, usually along some wooded stream, and went out periodically, whole villages together, on expeditions to hunt the deer and buffalo. Each village had several chiefs with thirty to fifty young men under him, and a number of medicine men who acted both as entertainers and as physicians. The men made war parties, but in comparison with the prairie tribes and the fierce Iroquois, the Illinois were not an aggressive people, and most of their fighting was defensive. Around the villages were the fields where the women cultivated corn, beans, and pumpkins. In season they gathered wild strawberries, blackberries, and all the fruits that abounded in the woods. Their houses were long lodges or arbors, built of upright poles covered with woven mats, and often housed several families.

The French found the Illinois a tractable, friendly, and talkative people, amenable to religious instruction, albeit treacherous in their dealings both among themselves and with white men.<sup>2</sup>

The Illinois nation was probably enjoying its greatest prosperity at about the time of La Salle's coming into the country in 1679. They had populous villages on the Illinois River, at Peoria Lake, and in the Mississippi bottom, and had managed to keep their enemies in check. For some years, from Fort St. Louis which he built at the (Starved) Rock in 1683, La Salle afforded them protection against the Iroquois, who were in league with the British. The Jesuit Fathers under the leadership of Father Marquette were introducing Christianity and the beginnings of education at their missions at Fort St. Louis and the Kaskaskia village on the Illinois. In 1699 Father Francois Buisson de St. Cosme, a priest from the Seminary of Foreign Missions at Quebec, built a mission at the Cahokia village which was to be the center of a series of mission posts up and

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1. Henri de Tonti, An Account of M. de la Salle's Last Expedition (London, 1698), p. 77.
  2. The best description of the culture of the Illinois is found in the so-called "De Gannes Memoir," 1721, a copy of which is in the Newberry Library, Chicago; it is translated in Theodore Calvin Pease and Raymond C. Werner, The French Foundations, Illinois Historical Collections XXIII, French Series, I (Springfield, 1934), p. 302-95. For other accounts see Beckwith, The Illinois and Indiana Indians, p. 99-107; W. D. Strong, The Indian Tribes of the Chicago Region, Anthropology Leaflet, no. 24, Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago, 1926).



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down the Mississippi where the Indian population was the thickest.<sup>1</sup> Charlevoix, in 1721, visited the village and the mission, and found them thriving.<sup>2</sup>

But the forces of destruction were already at work. The Potawatomis and the Sacs and Foxes were moving south along the western shore of Lake Michigan, and encroaching on the territory of the Miamis who were living around the southern end of the lake. There is no record of unfriendly relations between the Illinois and the Miamis, whose language and culture were closely akin, but as the Miamis were gradually displaced, the Illinois became subject to the predatory raids of the incoming tribes. Tonti's withdrawal of the remnants of La Salle's force from Fort St. Louis in 1702 left them open on all sides to their enemies. Warfare became general and devastating, the more northerly groups bearing the brunt of the earlier attacks. In 1756 an enumeration of Illinois warriors taken by the Canadian Government, showed the numbers of the tribe: "Mitichigamias, near Fort Chartres, 250; Kaskaskias, 6 leagues below, 100; Peorias and the Rock, 50; the Cahokias and Tamarois, 200."<sup>3</sup> To the depredations of the Sacs and Potawatomis were added those of the Kickapoos, who had established themselves between the Illinois and Wabash rivers south of the Kankakee, and were pushing westward. Their war parties penetrated to the villages on the Mississippi.

In 1769 occurred the event which brought about the virtual extinction of the Illinois nation. In that year Pontiac, the great chief of the Ottawas who had built up a conspiracy of tribes against the British, had been defeated, and had signed the treaty at Detroit in 1765, was attending a council of tribes at Cahokia, when he was killed. The accounts of the actual manner of his death vary, but however it came about, the Illinois were held responsible. The Iroquois struck for vengeance and in a few years reduced the tribe to a miserable remnant. By 1800 there were only 150 remaining, clustered in the villages about Kaskaskia and Cahokia.<sup>4</sup> The Potawatomis and Kickapoos moved in upon their lands.

The Potawatomis concentrated farther north than the St. Clair County region, but their hunting parties penetrated to the American Bottoms. We have a record of Joseph Bowman's having held council with them at Cahokia in 1779 and sent them away in a peaceful frame of mind.<sup>5</sup> They were a war-

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1. John D. G. Shea, Early Voyages Up and Down the Mississippi (Albany: J. Munsell, 1861), p. 66ff.
  2. Journal of a Voyage to North America (London: printed for R. and J. Dodsley, 1761), II, 218, 219.
  3. Beckwith, Illinois and Indiana Indians, p. 106. Canadian papers not cited.
  4. Strong, Indian Tribes of the Chicago Region, p. 32.
  5. "Letter to Clark," May 28, 1779, in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 610.

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like people, who by the time they came into possession of Illinois lands had blended their woodland culture with that of the prairie people, even to the extent of occasionally using tepees as dwellings. Like most of the other tribes they maintained amicable relations with the French, were vacillating in their attitude toward the British, and for the most part were hostile to the Americans, although they remained loyal during the Blackhawk War. The last of their lands was ceded to the United States by the Treaty of Chicago in 1833. Two years later they were moved to a reservation near Council Bluffs, Iowa.<sup>1</sup>

The Kickapoos claimed the section lying between the Illinois and Wabash rivers, south of the Kankakee. After their conquest of the Illinois their bands hunted over the Kaskaskia River and Silver Creek country, and south to the Ohio. They were a troublesome people, inferior in general warfare, but excelling in predatory raids. They sided with neither the British nor the French in the long contest for the fur trade of the northwest, but were allies of the British in the War of 1812. Their delight was to swoop down upon an isolated settlement of Americans and massacre as many as possible, and they did not withhold their attacks from the French and Illinois villages in the Bottoms. Unlike the Illinois, they did not intermarry with the whites - French, British, or Americans.<sup>2</sup> By the treaty of Edwardsville in 1819, the Kickapoos ceded to the United States government all their lands south of the Kankakee River, east of the Illinois River, and north of a line drawn from the mouth of the Illinois to the Wabash, in return for a \$2,000 annuity for fifteen years and a guarantee of undisputed possession of certain lands to the north and west.<sup>3</sup>

The Illinois villages in the neighborhood of Kaskaskia and Cahokia continued for a number of years, though their numbers were much reduced. The depredations of the neighboring tribes were not the only force conducing to their deterioration. Prior to the coming of the British in 1763, they had lived side by side with the French in peaceful relations. They traded their furs and pursued their tribal life undisturbed, save when they joined with the French against the Cherokees and Chickasaws. Under the influence of the missions many of them embraced Christianity and were baptized. But the introduction to white civilization, at least in the way it was done, seems always to have been a doubtful advantage to the American Indian. The added ease of life through the increments of trade had the effect of dulling his faculties; the use of the liquor which too often was his pay for the furs he brought, as well as for his aid against enemies, brought out all the most revolting characteristics of the savage. The process of deterioration increased during the British regime. Thomas Hutchins, visiting the region in 1778, writes "Three miles northerly of

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1. Strong, Indian Tribes of Chicago Region, p. 29-35.

2. Beckwith, Illinois and Indiana Indians, p. 133.

3. "Treaty with the Kickapoos" in Indian Affairs, Laws and Treaties, compiled by Charles Kapler (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1904), II, 129.



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Kaskaskia is a village of Illinois Indians (of the Kaskaskias tribe) containing about 210 persons and 60 warriors. They were formerly brave and warlike, but are degenerated into a drunken, and debauched tribe, and so indolent as scarcely to procure a sufficiency of skins and furs to barter for clothing.<sup>1</sup> The influence of the Americans who came in under Clark contributed still further to the sorry situation, until the French stood in actual fear of attack by their erstwhile friendly neighbors.<sup>2</sup>

After the acquisition of the Illinois country by the United States, and the creation of the Northwest Territory, the government took up the troublous question of Indian claims. By an act of Congress in 1791 large tracts of land were secured to the various tribes on which they were to hunt undisturbed provided they did not molest American settlers or other tribes.<sup>3</sup> This, however, was the period of British hostilities leading up to the War of 1812, and the British agents did not hesitate to take advantage of the Indians' warlike nature to keep them agitated. In 1795, after General Anthony Wayne's defeat of the Indians, a treaty was made at Greenville, Indiana, "to put an end to a destructive war, to settle all controversies, and to restore harmony and a friendly intercourse between the United States, and said Indian tribes."<sup>4</sup> This agreement was with the Potawatomis, Miamis, Kickapoos, Kaskaskias (by which name all the remaining Illinois were called) and eight other tribes. It marked the beginning of lasting peace with the Indians, although many local disturbances provoked by abuses on both sides, arose thereafter and had to be settled by force or by treaty. From that time on, by a series of treaties, the Indians were gradually shorn of their lands.

By 1803 the Kaskaskia tribe had become so depleted in number that in a treaty made at Vincennes, with William Henry Harrison representing the United States, their holdings were cut down to 350 acres near Kaskaskia and a tract of about 1,200 acres to be chosen by themselves. They were to have an annuity of \$1,000, payable in money, provisions, or in merchandise, and provision was made for the building of a Roman Catholic church for their use, and the support of a priest.<sup>5</sup> In 1818 the Peorias, who had not been included in the Vincennes treaty, surrendered their title, and joined with the Kaskaskias.<sup>6</sup> Fourteen years later the last remnants of the once powerful Illinois nation were removed to the west bank of the river, all their

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1. Hutchins, Topographical Description, p. 108.
  2. "Inhabitants of Cahokia to De la Balme, September 1780" in Alvord, The Cahokia Records, p. 539; "Ordinance of the Court of Cahokia, July 5, 1789," ibid., p. 607.
  3. Acts Passed at the First Congress of the United States of America, 1789-90 (Philadelphia, Francis Childs), sec. 6, p. 411.
  4. "Treaty with Wyandots etc." in Kapler, Indian Affairs, Laws and Treaties, II, 30-34.
  5. "Treaty with Kaskaskias etc.," Compilation of all the Treaties between the United States and All the Tribes (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1873), p. 423.
  6. "Treaty with Peorias etc.," ibid., p. 395.

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lands having been given up save the 350 acres near Kaskaskia which was guaranteed "to Ellen De Coigne, the daughter of their late chief, who has married a white man."<sup>1</sup>

Once more, in 1854, the Kaskaskias ceded away their grants, this time relinquishing also their annuity in lieu of which a government-controlled fund was set up. This treaty contained provisions against the use of "ardent spirits," and for the care of inebriates.<sup>2</sup> Finally, in 1867, the remaining Kaskaskias, now confederated with a number of other dwindled tribes, agreed to remove within two years to the space allotted them in the Indian Territory, and conduct themselves according to the regulations of the reservation - except those among them who wished to accept American citizenship.<sup>3</sup> Each successive treaty marks a step in the decline of a people unable, in a few short years, to bridge the centuries between their ancient culture and the civilization impinging upon it.

### The French Beginnings

The story of the early voyages of exploration of La Salle and his lieutenant Tonti, of Joliet and Father Marquette, and the hyperbolical Father Hennepin, that opened the western country to French domain, has been told too often and too well to need repetition here. It was on April 9, 1682, that La Salle set up a column with the French flag at the mouth of the Mississippi and took possession of all the land watered by the great river in the name of Louis XIV. Although it sealed the territory for French occupation, La Salle's was not the first claim made in the name of France. St. Lussou, exploring the Great Lakes region in 1671, had held a ceremony at Sault Ste. Marie in which he, too, laid claim to the land for the king. Not long afterward traders and colonists from Canada and from France, inspired by the explorer's enthusiasm on his last visit to his homeland, began to come in. Settlements were made on the lower Mississippi, and trade established between them and Fort St. Louis; the first permanent settlement in the Illinois was at Cahokia.

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1. "Treaty with the Kaskaskias etc.," made October 1832, at Castor Hill, Missouri, in Compilation, p. 397. William Clark, the companion of Meriwether Lewis in the exploration of the Louisiana Territory, was one of the commissioners for the United States in this treaty.
  2. "Treaty with Kaskaskia, Peoria, etc.," made May 30, 1854, at Washington, D. C. in Kapler, Indian Affairs, Laws and Treaties, II, 636.
  3. "Treaty with the Seneca, Mixed Seneca, and Shawnee, Quapaw, etc.," made February 23, 1867, at Washington, D. C. in Kapler, Indian Affairs, Laws and Treaties, II, 960.

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Exactly when the first French settled in the village of the Cahokias is doubtful. Father St. Cosme had erected his Mission of the Holy Family there in 1699, after having selected the site during a voyage the previous year with Tonti and several other priests from the Seminary of Foreign Mission in Quebec.<sup>1</sup> But the Jesuits, who had been in the Illinois since 1675 and were empowered with the spiritual jurisdiction of the Illinois nation, had made preceding visits, and sent a resident priest about the time the mission was established. After the arrival of Father Bergier, who succeeded St. Cosme in 1700, an agreement was entered into by which the Jesuit Father Pinet was to minister to the Indians, and the Seminarian Father Bergier, to the French.<sup>2</sup> That French family life was already established in Cahokia is indicated in a report that the nineteen men who accompanied Tonti on a journey to Biloxi, where they arrived with five canoes of furs on February 16, 1700, were married men living in Cahokia or on the Illinois River.<sup>3</sup> The land on which the village grew up was a part of the seignory of the Seminary of Foreign Missions.

Within a short time after the founding of the Cahokia mission, the large village of the Kaskaskias on the Illinois River was driven from its location, and moved to the southern end of the Bottoms. With it moved the Mission of the Immaculate Conception, long established there. The new site became the nucleus of the French village of Kaskaskia. In 1718 Fort Chartres was built a few miles up the Mississippi from Kaskaskia, to stay the encroachments of the British, who, penetrating the mountains from the east, had claimed the land almost at the same time St. Lussion made his claim.<sup>4</sup> A village sprang up around the fort, and in the course of a few years enough French colonists had come in from Canada and New Orleans - a few directly from France - to form village at St. Philippe and Prairie du Rocher.

In the earliest period the Illinois country was considered a dependency of Canada, but its remoteness from the seat of government caused the reins of control to lie lightly on the settlements. What local government the people had emanated from the church. The French, being inherently respectful of authority, carried their disputes to the priest and were usually willing to abide by his decisions.

It was not until 1722, after the Company of the Indies had acquired the grant to the territory, and the Illinois had been made a part of Louisiana, that a resident governor was appointed to administer civil affairs. The appointee was Pierre Duque de Boisbriant, and he made his headquarters

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1. Shea, Early Voyages, p. 66.
  2. Ibid., p. 117.
  3. Alvord, The Illinois Country, p. 128.
  4. Ibid., p. 122.



at Fort Chartres. The territory under his control was divided into nine military and civil districts, of which the Illinois, number seven, was the largest. A commandant and a judge were appointed for each district, and these were subject to a superior court or council at New Orleans. Three governors succeeded Boisbriant before the company surrendered its charter to the crown in 1732.<sup>1</sup> Thereafter, the governors received their appointments directly from the king. The principal alteration in government resulting from the change was the introduction of the Coutume de Paris as the law of the province in place of the French civil law previously in use. Although the common law remained spasmodically in operation until long after the beginning of the American regime, it was not, even at first, rigidly held to, because much of it as practised in the mother country was inapplicable to the situations arising in a new land.

Under the major commandant or governor, who, while the Illinois was a colony of the crown, was nominally responsible to the Governor of Louisiana, a local commandant functioned at the head of the militia in each village. Of necessity the militia was carefully maintained, and was composed of practically all the adult males of the community. The commandant was the only officer elected by popular vote. In addition to his military duties, he was responsible for the policing of the village, and could settle minor disputes. His decision could be appealed to the major commandant.<sup>2</sup>

One of the principal and most arduous duties of the governors was to protect their territory against the hostilities of the Indian tribes friendly with the British. Most of those who lived in close proximity with the French, as we have seen, were their friends. But among the Cherokees and Chickasaws between the Illinois country and New Orleans, trouble was constantly being fomented. The Illinois tribes frequently joined forces with the French army and militia to hold these enemies in check. Pierre D'Artaquette, the first of the royal governors, on an expedition against the Chickasaws in which he was accompanied by a thousand Indians, was captured and burned at the stake.<sup>3</sup>

Under his successor, Alphonse de la Buissoniere, a kind of peace was patched up, which, though it settled nothing so far as the British aggressions were concerned, allowed the settlers in the Illinois to give their attention to domestic affairs. The days of Buissoniere and the commandant following him, Benoist de St. Claire, were full of peace and plenty. With the Indians in check for the moment, civil affairs running smoothly, and the fertile soil returning rich harvests, the colonists were able to approach a cultivated life not common on the frontier - and certainly in strong contrast

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1. The second of these was Captain Sieur de Liette, nephew of Tonti, and almost certainly the author of the "De Gannes Memoir," see supra, p. 10n. Pease and Werner, The French Foundations, p. ix.
  2. Sidney Breese, Early History of Illinois (Chicago: E. B. Myers & Company, 1884), p. 214.
  3. John Reynolds, A Pioneer History of Illinois (1st ed.; Belleville: N. A. Randall, 1852), p. 39-41.

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to the lives of those American pioneers who came in upon these borders half a century later. It was during these years (1736-42) that fresh groups of colonists arrived, some of them belonging to the gentry of France and signing the parish registers with all their flourishing titles. They settled at Kaskaskia, at St. Philippe, at Prairie du Rocher, at Cahokia; but the most brilliant company gathered about the gate of Fort Chartres.<sup>1</sup>

The halcyon days were not to last indefinitely. The British had not been idle. The Chevalier de Bertel, to whom St. Claire had handed over the governorship, early in his term arrested two British spies taken upon the Mississippi, and would have been the victim of a surprise attack by the Indians - the very bands who had been allies of the French - had not his skill and experience in Indian warfare enabled him to turn it off. To withstand the combined British and Indians, de Bertel had only a small garrison and a crumbling fortress - for Fort Chartres had been allowed, during the years of peace, to fall into disrepair. He repeatedly petitioned his superiors for aid, but it was not for several years - until after de Bertel had returned the command to St. Claire in 1750 - that the king at last provided for the rebuilding of the fort.

It was in 1751 that the Chevalier Makarty, an Irishman reared in France, arrived at Fort Chartres with a large detachment of troops and ordered to build a fortress of stone where the disintegrating wooden structure stood. He came none too soon. Only a day or two before, a party of Piankeshaws and Illinois had nearly succeeded in a ruinous attack upon Kaskaskia, whither the troops and the government had been moved. The plan was to fall upon the villagers as they came out from Mass, and destroy the whole population; the quick thinking of one of the French officers thwarted the scheme, but the people were ordered to carry guns to church, and sentries were placed at the door during Mass for some time.<sup>2</sup> Makarty was three years building his fort of stone, the material for which was quarried from the bluffs and carried in boats over the lake between them and the fortifications. When completed it was the finest fortress in all the western country, and was manned by almost a full regiment of French regulars.<sup>3</sup> The village of New Chartres which grew up in the shadow of its walls became the center of fashionable life in the west.

For almost a decade following, Fort Chartres sent out men and provisions for the struggle between France and Britain. It was to little avail, for defeat followed defeat until the disaster of the Plains of Abraham laid Canada in the hands of the King of England. Even then the Illinois, now under the command of Neyon de Villiers who had relieved

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1. Edward G. Mason, "Illinois in the Eighteenth Century" in Chapters from Illinois History (Chicago: Herbert Stone, 1901), p. 223ff.
  2. Alvord, The Illinois Country, p. 235.
  3. Mason, op. cit., p. 235.



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Makarty, held hope of remaining under French sovereignty. It was unthinkable that Louisiana, too, would be ceded. It was with great consternation and sadness that the people received the word that their European father, Louis the XV, had turned them over to England by signing the treaty of Paris on February 10, 1763. Villiers and many with him from Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and other villages, took passage to New Orleans. Some returned to France. A large number of those left behind moved across the Mississippi to take refuge on Spanish soil. The trading post of St. Louis had that very year been established by Pierre La Clede, and they hoped there to escape the rigors of British rule, which they had reason to fear, remembering the fate of the Acadians in Canada a few years before.

But all the inhabitants did not leave, nor was the flag of France hauled down from Fort Chartres. A garrison of about forty men remained there till the British should come, and Louis St. Ange de Belle Rive, a seasoned officer whose father thirty years before had been governor under the Company of the West, came from Vincennes to assume the command and make the formal surrender. But no British came. The obstacle in the way was Pontiac. By the masterful maneuvering of his alliance of tribes this astounding chieftain was preventing the hated British from occupying the territory they had, after nearly a century of struggle, wrested from France. Up the Mississippi from New Orleans, down the Ohio, by the northern route from Detroit - no matter whence an expedition set out, it was met and turned back by Pontiac's warriors. And the villagers remaining along the Mississippi pursued their lives in quietude under the kindly ministration of St. Ange. It was St. Ange himself who finally opened the way for the British. He convinced Pontiac, who visited him at the Fort with a band of the Illinois he had induced to join his cause, that further resistance to the victorious British was useless.<sup>1</sup> The chieftain forebore any attack on the detachment of the Black Watch, which under the command of Captain Stirling, moved down the Ohio from Fort Pitt, and came in the fall of 1765 to Fort Chartres. On October second, St. Ange delivered the fortress to Captain Stirling and the Lilies of France were lowered from the last French stronghold in America.

Thus ended the era of French government in Illinois. It was, notwithstanding some difficulties with the Indians, and almost constant British hostilities, one of internal prosperity. Although the power of the governors, both that derived from the company charters and that from royal authority was practically absolute, the characters of the men chosen seem to be such that there was little abuse of it. Their administration was firm but not harsh. The people were encouraged to manage their own local affairs, and were neither excessively taxed nor interfered with in the pursuit of their business.

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1. Mason, "Illinois in the Eighteenth Century" in Chapters from Illinois History, p. 245.



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The French villages grew up in the pattern of rural hamlets in France. The French are predominantly a sociable people; instead of living as do American farmers on individual farmsteads, each man's home in the midst of his own acres, they prefer to cluster their dwellings together, neighbor close by neighbor, and to go out from the village each day to work the fields held in common by the village. When Commandant Boisbriant came into the Illinois, one of his early acts was to make in the name of the Company of the Indies, grants of land to the villages for their commons and common fields. The commons consisted of the wild land, forest and prairie, where the livestock could be pastured and where if they chose, the inhabitants might hunt game and gather fruits, nuts, and berries. Boundaries were defined in the grants, but the commons were not divided, not fenced, and every household must know its own cows and pigs, for they all ran together. The common field lay close to the village. It was divided into narrow strips which were assigned to individuals for cultivation. Around the whole was a stout fence made of small poles driven close together and well into the ground. Each man was responsible for the portion of the fence bordering his own field; if he grew careless about repairs and stock from the nearby commons broke through, he was liable for the damages done to his neighbors' crops or to the trespassing animal.<sup>1</sup> "Good and sufficient" gates were provided for entrance to the common field, the principal one close by the village, others wherever a road crossing the field had outlet. At each gate a guard - usually an elderly Negro slave - was posted. When the crops were all harvested, the gates were thrown open and the stock allowed to run in the field until planting time. The whole village, in assembly before the church door after Mass, decided upon the day when the plowing and the planting should begin, the time for harvest, and the time to let down the gates. To carry out the popular decisions an officer called a syndic was elected, who looked after all details concerning the commons and the common fields.<sup>2</sup>

The common field of Cahokia extended from the river to the bluffs. The grant under which it was secured was unique among land grants in the Illinois in that the seigniorship was given, not to an individual, but to the church, represented by the missionaries from the Seminary of Foreign Missions at Quebec. From the fathers the inhabitants received title to their parcels of land, and to them paid the perpetual rent of a sou an acre.<sup>3</sup> The gate was close to the house of Nicholas Jarrot, and was the

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1. See Trottier vs. LaCroix, "Court Record, March 1782" in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 123,129. See *infra*, p. 31n.1.
  2. Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. xviii,122.
  3. The grant was made by Boisbriant in 1722 and confirmed by the French government in 1743 after the colony had reverted to the crown. Frederick Benchman, "Commons of Cahokia and Prairie du Rocher," Illinois Catholic Historical Society Review, April, 1919, p. 405ff.

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busiest spot in the village early in the morning and at sundown.<sup>1</sup>

The fields were planted to corn, spring wheat, hops, and tobacco. The corn fed the hogs - for the French were contemptuous of corn bread for human consumption; the wheat was milled into flour which became one of the chief articles of export; much of the hops went to breweries of the mission, though they, too, are mentioned among exports; the tobacco, such as was not used to fill the little black pipes of the men and the snuff boxes of the women, was used for trading.

The implements of the French seemed crude, even to the earliest of the American settlers. They were homemade after the pattern of those used in France when the first colonists came to America, and in a hundred years the pattern did not change. The plows were awkward wooden affairs on wheels, drawn by oxen yoked together by the horns rather than across the necks. The carts - there were no wagons - were also of wood, clumsy and without springs; their large wheels untired, so that they had the nickname among the Americans of "barefooted carts." Horses rather than oxen were used to pull the carts; the harnesses were made of rawhide.<sup>2</sup>

The village of Cahokia straggled for three quarters of a mile along the creek, the church and the fort in the center,<sup>3</sup> the houses set close together

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1. A thumbnail picture of life at the field gate is sketched in the court record of the case of Louis Trottier vs. Baptiste Saucier: "At the same court the plaintiff sues the defendant for a pig, which passed the gate, of which the defendant's negro is the guardian. The defendant answers that the said pig profited by the moment that the negro opened the gate for a cart which goes and comes, and yet the negro had done his best, as had also the son of Jos. Maisenville, to hinder the said pig from passing, in which they had not succeeded. The defendant produces a certificate by Madame LaFlamme, in which she declares that the negro and also the children of the said plaintiff did their best to drive the pig back; and that she had heard Madame Trottier say: 'Come back, the sow will return this evening.' Considering the demands, the defence and the certificate, the Court condemned the plaintiff to lose his pig, seeing that what had happened could not be foreseen, and furthermore, that his wife ought not to have recalled the children, and ought to have acted so that they might, perhaps, have brought the said pig back." Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 139, 140.
  2. Reynolds, Pioneer History of Illinois (1st ed.), p. 49,50.
  3. Captain Philip Pitman, sent in 1763 to survey the forts and take inventory of the munitions when the British were preparing to take possession, remarks of the Cahokia fort, "what is called the fort, is a small house standing in the centre of the village. It differs nothing from the other houses, except in being one of the poorest. It was formerly enclosed in high palisades, but these were torn down and burned. Indeed a fort at this place could be of little use." The Present State of the European Settlements on the Mississippi (London: J. Nourse, 1770), p. 50.



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and near to the street. Around each house was the garden plot, enclosed, like the common field, by a picket fence. Here the women grew flowers and medicinal herbs and here were set out the apple, peach, and pear trees whose "fruits came to great perfection."<sup>1</sup> Here, too, were the stone-walled wells with windlasses for pulling up the buckets. A few of the houses of the richer inhabitants were built of stone brought from the bluffs, though these were commoner in Kaskaskia and Prairie du Rocher than in Cahokia. Most of the houses were built of cedar or mulberry logs, set upright in the ground, strongly braced at the corners, and held together by cross strips. The interstices were filled with mortar mixed with moss. With their whitewashed walls, their peaked roofs thatched with straw or covered with pegged shingles, and the wide galleries on all four sides, they gave an air of comfort and hospitality that was lacking for many generations in American pioneer homes. Within the house also the walls were whitewashed with many coats; the floors were slabs of hewn log, in the better homes smoothed and waxed, and the windows, especially in the later period, were of glass. Most of the furniture was homemade, with an eye to comfort and beauty as well as to utility. But the spinning wheel and the loom - those ever present accoutrements of the American pioneer cabin - were little in evidence in the French cottages. Most of the cloth used was brought up from New Orleans by the traders when they made their semiannual trips, carrying down the flour, pork, lard, and wine, and the furs and peltries, and returning with such manufactured goods as the people needed.

Fashions, too, were brought in from France and New Orleans for those who were interested, particularly the group attached to the government circle around Fort Chartres and later at Kaskaskia. The wealthy wore much the same apparel as they would have worn in France - breeches, waistcoats, and vests for the men and gowns for the women of satin, taffeta, and velvet in rich colors, cloaks trimmed with velvet and furs, silk stockings and garters with gold or silver buckles, and hats richly ornamented; the most fashionable used gold or jewelled buttons.<sup>2</sup> But from the accounts we have, it would seem that the greater portion of the people changed their style of dress with no more rapidity than they adopted new methods of agriculture. The women wore full-skirted dresses of blue cloth - the proclivity of the French habitant for wearing blue is remarked upon by almost every writer who travelled among them - with a blue kerchief over the head. The men dressed in blue shirts with breeches of buckskin for winter, and cloth for summer; they likewise wore the blue kerchief, except when weather demanded the fur cap or capote hood. The capote, of white or blue, was the winter garment for both sexes, a kind of heavy jacket with a hood attached, which could be thrown back or pulled over the head. Men and women alike wore moccasins on their feet.

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1. Reynolds, Pioneer History of Illinois (1st ed.), p. 49,50.

2. An inventory of the personal property of a deceased gentleman of Cahokia, made in 1778, lists most of the articles mentioned, and in addition, such luxuries as French soap, a mirror, ribbons, glass goblets, strings for a spinet, and "a little jar with pomade." Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 449-53.

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The heart of village life was the church. It was around the nucleus of the mission chapels that Kaskaskia and Cahokia grew up. The French were constitutionally a devout people, and attendance upon Mass was regular. The sovereignty of God was recognized, in public as well as private affairs, with the same unquestioning assurance as the sovereignty of the king. The priest was one of the most important figures in the community, having his finger in the civic as well as the ecclesiastical pie. It was at the church door, following Mass, that the assemblies of the people were held to elect their officers and to decide upon matters of civic welfare. All important notices were posted on the door of the church.<sup>1</sup>

The inhabitants of the villages were a kindly, simple, hospitable folk, hard working, but also given to fun and merrymaking. Governor Reynolds says of them, "They were ambitious for neither knowledge or wealth, and therefore, possessed not much of either."<sup>2</sup>

Each village had its gentry, adventuresome members from gentle families in France, who made considerable fortunes in the fur trade and merchandising of local commodities. They lived in comfort, but without pretension, some having retinues of slaves - the descendants of the West Indian Negroes brought in by Philip Renault in the early years - to work the fields and perform the numerous tasks of a large household. The slaves for the most part were well treated, and contented until evil days fell upon the community with the coming of the British. The distinction of class between the gentry and the common folk seems to have been preserved in a measure - at least the records show the names of the gentry in positions of importance and authority,<sup>3</sup> but in social gatherings, the Sunday evening dancing parties which were the delight of the French soul, and the numerous holiday frolics, the whole village mingled without regard to class.

Among the common folk were carpenters, masons, and smiths, millwrights, and tailors, most of whom worked their plots of ground as well as plied their trade. If the double tasks were too heavy, a young man could be hired by the season to plant, care for, and harvest the crop, for a small sum. Many of

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1. See Court Record, November 12, 1785, and December 1, 1786 in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 215, 259.
  2. Pioneer History (1st. ed.), p. 37.
  3. The families of Cahokia, as shown in a census of 1787 have been traced by Alvord to their origin in America. Among the gentry appear the names of Francois Trottier, the Saucier family, Antoine Girardin, and Jean Baptiste La Croix. Charles Gratiot had been one of the most influential persons in the village until his removal to St. Louis shortly after the coming of Clark. These names weave in and out through the records from the time of Clark's first court to the establishment of the county under Governor St. Clair. "Census of Cahokia, August 17, 1787" in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 624-32; also Mr. Alvord's footnotes on these pages.



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the young men, however, particularly among the Cahokians, chose to hire out to the fur companies, preferring the dangers and toils of the hunter and voyageur to the quieter life in the villages.

It was the voyageurs and coureurs de bois who composed the rougher element of the villages, and who gave to the French population of the Illinois the evil reputation they gained among some of the earlier travellers, French as well as British. They were boisterous and irresponsible, fond of drinking and gambling, and treacherous in their dealings. The priests and magistrates complained bitterly of their lawless ways, but as Alvord points out, "their pleasures and vices were of a far milder type than those of their counterpart, the American backwoodsman."<sup>1</sup>

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic of the Illinois French - and the one which eventually brought about their undoing when they were forced into competition with a more aggressive people - was their child-like submissiveness to authority, their willingness to be led by those in high positions, their lack of initiative in either demanding or providing a system of self-government for their own betterment. The law was sacred, and those appointed to execute it worthy of utmost respect. The most petty disputes of daily living were carried to the court for adjustment and weighed with as much gravity as an incident affecting the safety of the entire group. When Madame Racette called Madame Sansfacon a thief and Madame Sansfacon retorted that at any rate she had never stolen lard from the LaCroix house, and "they said to each other a thousand invective," the case, with all the testimony and the decision, is spread on the record of the court; almost beside it appears the court's action upon the discovery of a British plot to incite the Indians against the village.<sup>2</sup> These were a people accustomed through generations to depend for their happiness on the guidance of an unlimited monarch, the justice of the laws he gave them, the benevolence of the governors he appointed over them. It is not difficult to understand the confusion of such a people when the governmental structure on which they leaned gave way, and they found themselves subjected to the sterner rule of the British army.<sup>3</sup>

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1. Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. xviii.
  2. Ibid., p. 23-25, 31-33.
  3. This account of the manners and customs of the Illinois French is drawn from the following sources: Pittman, Present State of European Settlements, p. 50, 55; Flagg, "The Far West" in Thwaites, Early Western Travels, XXVII, 52ff; Reynolds, Pioneer History (1st. ed.), p. 48ff, and My Own Times (Chicago: Chicago Historical Society. Fergus Printing Co., 1879), p. 37ff; Breese, Early History of Illinois, p. 192-200; Alvord's introduction to Cahokia Records, p. xviii-xxv, and the records themselves.

### The British Interlude

When Captain Stirling arrived at Fort Chartres in October, 1765, he found the governmental affairs of the colony in a sad state of disorganization. Among those who had abandoned the eastern bank were most of the magistrates and important men of the villages. St. Ange had managed to maintain order, largely through the force of his own personality and the momentum of the system to which the inhabitants were accustomed. The captains of the militia continued to function, and had assumed minor civil duties.

With the change to British administration, English law would become the law of the country, but no machinery had been set up for its enforcement - in fact no provision had been made for civil government of any kind. This threw the entire responsibility for governing the colony upon the military commandant, and the execution of his orders upon his officers. These were men whose only experience was in military affairs, and they were, besides, constitutionally out of sympathy with the French. It is small wonder, then, that the rule they imposed was arbitrary and lacking in any kind of consideration for the good of the inhabitants.

Captain Stirling's term was cut short by death, and he was succeeded by Major Farmar, who brought a fresh detachment of troops up the Mississippi. Governor Reynolds reports that St. Ange de Belle Rive once more crossed the river and assumed command at Fort Chartres until Farmar's arrival.<sup>1</sup> In 1767 Farmar was superseded by Colonel John Reed, who remained until 1768. None of these men made any attempt to devise a semblance of civil government, in spite of the frequent requests of the people in their charge. The post at the Illinois was a rich one for an officer who had an eye to the lining of his own pockets. If in accomplishing his gain other men's pockets were robbed, it was a matter of little moment to his superiors in authority; his isolation was his protection. Reed's administration was particularly tyrannous, and that of Lieutenant Colonel John Wilkins, who followed him, was more so. Both those men charged exorbitant fees for the execution of legal papers, even the required oath of fidelity to the government of England. Since the French habitually committed even the most trivial transactions to writing, this was a rich field for extortion. Heavy taxes also, payable in peltries or provisions, were levied upon the villages for the support of the troops.

The result of this treatment was a growing dissatisfaction among the inhabitants that ended in the emigration of a good many, particularly those with substantial businesses, to the west bank. There they were free from

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1. My Own Times, p. 50.

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the political domination of England, although the British influence was strong in commercial circles. When the Spanish took possession of Louisiana, however, the conditions for French trade in St. Louis became less favorable, and a number of the Illinois inhabitants returned. A census taken in 1767, after many of the families had moved across to St. Louis, enumerated 600 white persons at Kaskaskia, twenty-five families at Prairie du Rocher, three at New Chartres, three at St. Philippe, and sixty at Cahokia.<sup>1</sup> There were, in addition, several hundred Negroes.

Colonel Wilkins took cognizance of the demands of the French for a civil government to the extent of establishing, upon his own authority, a court of judicature. It may be suspected that his action was less in the interest of the oppressed villagers than of the British traders who, under the French system of submitting disagreements to arbitration, were not able to press suits for their debts to advantage for themselves.<sup>2</sup> Whatever the motives for its establishment, Wilkins' court was the first to be set up under English common law in the Mississippi Valley. It was composed of six judges who were authorized to "Try in a Summary way all causes of debt and property that should be brought before them and to give their judgment thereon according to the laws of England to the best of their judgment and understanding."<sup>3</sup> Criminal jurisdiction was not included, and there was no provision for trial by jury.

The president during the life of the court was George Morgan, a representative of an English trading firm who had come to the Illinois when the British first came in. He had the respect of both the British and the French. On the original court three other Englishmen sat with him, but these were eventually displaced by Frenchmen. In 1770 the court was given power to try criminal cases, without jury, and to inflict punishment at its discretion.<sup>4</sup>

The setting up of the court had not succeeded in binding the commandant and the people any closer together. A strong faction, who looked to Morgan as their leader, opposed the commandant. The court had held its sessions alternately at Kaskaskia and New Chartres. Shortly after the extension of its authority to criminal actions, Wilkins gave the arbitrary order that thereafter sessions would be held only at New Chartres. The court protested in a memorial to the commandant. There the record ceases. Apparently Wilkins wiped out the court by the same authority under which he had created it.<sup>5</sup> Once more the villages were without civil government.

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1. Alvord, The Illinois Country, p. 202.

2. Ibid., p. 266.

3. Court Record in Randolph County Court Records, Kaskaskia Manuscripts, 23.

4. Ibid.

5. Alvord, op. cit., p. 268.



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The commandants were faced with other responsibilities than the administration of local government. Although the French no longer presented an obstacle to the holding of the territory, the Indians who had been their allies were still to be reckoned with. The tribes who had associated under Pontiac were not fully won to the British cause. In August and September of 1776 two councils were held at Fort Chartres which were attended by over a thousand Indians of the western tribes, and representatives from the Delawares, Shawnees, Hurons, and the Six Nations. With George Croghan as agent for the government, a treaty was concluded in which a general peace was agreed upon. In the years following, the peace was fairly well maintained, though with the cessation of the large presents which the Indians had been accustomed to receive in return for their hostilities to the French, discontent grew up among some of the tribes. But even during the Iroquois reprisals against the Illinois for the death of Pontiac, the British were able to hold their ascendancy, and to protect the bands of Illinois who gathered about Fort Chartres. By 1771 peace was pretty thoroughly established.

It was in this year that an order came from London through General Gage, then commander-in-chief of the British army in America, that Fort Chartres be destroyed and the troops withdrawn from the Illinois. Gage had previously recommended this action, being of the opinion that the French inhabitants could look after themselves if they were given some form of government to follow. The order to abandon Fort Chartres was accompanied by instructions to set up such a government. Gage sent Major Isaac Hamilton to the Illinois to destroy the fortress, and recalled Wilkins and all the troops with the exception of a small detachment which remained at Kaskaskia under Captain Hugh Lord. Hamilton brought with him the plan which Gage himself had drawn up.<sup>1</sup>

According to this plan three magistrates were to function under the governor, one for each of the villages of Kaskaskia and Cahokia, and one to officiate over the three villages of St. Philippe, New Chartres, and Prairie du Rocher. The people were to elect five or six councillors who would sit with the governor in a grand council. The council was to formulate rules for the betterment of the people, and establish fees and fines. The decisions of the magistrates might be appealed to the Chamber of Kaskaskia - the three magistrates sitting jointly - and its decision might in turn be appealed to the grand council, whose word was final.<sup>2</sup>

This court was instituted in 1772. The next year Parliament passed the Quebec Act which was designed to ameliorate some of the evils existing in colonial government. Under the terms of this act, the Illinois country was attached for governmental purposes to Quebec. Instructions for the government of the districts were sent to Governor Carleton at Quebec in 1775, but before they could be carried out, war broke out between Great Britain and the colonies, and all plans were upset.

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1. Alvord, The Illinois Country, p. 298.

2. Court Record in Randolph County Court Records, Kaskaskia Manuscripts.



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The intention had been to recall Captain Lord and his troops immediately upon the establishment of civil government, but this now seemed unwise. He was permitted to remain at Kaskaskia in the capacity of commandant and judge until 1776. Although he attempted no elaborate system of civil government, his administration was sufficiently wise and tactful to keep the French contented; they reverted to their ancient custom of arbitrating disputes, and he did not disturb them.

In the spring of 1776, Lord was called to Canada to help repulse the advances of the Continental army in the north. He left the affairs of the Illinois in the hands of the Chevalier de Rocheblave, a Frenchman who had lived in Kaskaskia, crossed to St. Genevieve, and later returned to the Illinois bank. Possessed of both ambition and avarice, as well as a thorough knowledge of the French and Indians in the Illinois, he was not averse to entering the employ of the British government. He was a man to invite opposition, and he encountered plenty. The factionalism that had arisen under Wilkins and lain dormant during the administration of Lord, broke out with renewed vigor under Rocheblave. His opposition, came not from the French - upon the habitants under the leadership Gabriel Cerre of Kaskaskia, he was able to rely for support - but from the English-speaking merchants and their followers. With the colonies from which most of the traders had come, at war with England, with adherents to both sides present in the villages, with both parties negotiating among the Indians, and with no government except the word of a commandant who was not a native of the country he represented, the Illinois country became a nest of intrigue and party strife. Rocheblave himself was in the thick of it, when his administration was brought to an abrupt end by the operation of the very forces revolving about him.<sup>1</sup>

## American Occupation

### Clark's Conquest

The way for the American occupation of the Illinois was being quietly prepared almost from the very date of Captain Stirling's arrival in Fort Chartres. Traders from the colonies, eager to participate in the riches of the fur trade with the Indians, hastened to the French villages. Some were independent, others were agents of eastern firms who set up branch stores at

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1. The chief sources for the account of the British regime, besides those cited, are: Mason, "Illinois in the Eighteenth Century" in Chapters from Illinois History, p. 232ff; "Illinois in the Revolution" in the same volume, p. 280-292; Mason, "British Illinois" in Early Chicago and Illinois, Chicago Historical Society's Collections, v. IV (Chicago: Fergus Printing Co., 1890), p. 360-485; John Reynolds, Pioneer History of Illinois (2nd ed.; Chicago: Fergus Printing Co., 1887), p. 74-82.

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Vincennes, Kaskaskia, and Cahokia. By 1768 there were enough Englishmen in the American Bottom region to establish a militia company of sixty members.<sup>1</sup> Since the appointment of officers to superintend the Indian trade in the Illinois had been granted by the British government to the colony of Pennsylvania,<sup>2</sup> most of these men came from Philadelphia or Fort Pitt.

At the same time, notwithstanding the British edict of 1763 forbidding colonization in the newly acquired territory, several land companies were formed in the seaboard colonies to promote speculation schemes. A few large grants were secured along the Wabash and the Mississippi, and agents were active in promoting the sale of tracts. Few actual settlers came in to live upon the land, and eventually the claims were declared illegal by General Gage.<sup>3</sup> But the representatives of the companies, particularly George Morgan and the brothers William and Daniel Murray, continued to exercise considerable influence in the French settlements. They, with most of the other American traders, were sympathetic with the colonies when war broke out with England. Quick to realize the advantages of American possession of the western country, they did not lose the opportunity to implant ideas of independence in the minds of the French inhabitants, nor even hesitate to enter into negotiations with the Spaniards across the river. The Murrays, with Thomas Bentley, another trader, were the leaders of the party opposing Rocheblave.

The commandant was not a little disturbed by these activities. Realizing the weakness of his position, he wrote several letters of warning to his governor, finally appealing for troops to strengthen his garrison<sup>4</sup> when he got wind of an expedition planned against the British strongholds in the Northwest.

The quarter from which Rocheblave, and indeed the Americans themselves, expected the attack, was Detroit. It was thought that George Morgan, who in 1776 had left the Illinois for Fort Pitt to become a colonial agent for Indian affairs, would lead an expedition directed against the chain of forts from Detroit to Kaskaskia.

While the plans for this move were hatching, George Rogers Clark of Virginia had convinced Governor Patrick Henry and the Assembly of the necessity of taking the offensive against the British north of the Ohio, in order to protect the Kentuckians from British-inspired attacks of the Indians. He had sent spies to Kaskaskia, but because of his failure to acquaint them with the true purpose of their mission, they did not establish any communication between him and the leaders of the American

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1. Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. xxviii.
  2. Letter of General Gage, March 29, 1769, in N. Y. State Library Bulletin, No. 58, Calendar of Council Minutes.
  3. Alvord, op. cit., p. xxx.
  4. Mason, "Rocheblave Papers" in Early Chicago and Illinois, p. 416.

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cause in the Mississippi villages; in fact, their report did not encourage an enthusiastic reception for Clark.<sup>1</sup> It is not known whether or not any of the inhabitants were informed of Clark's exact movements before the night he entered Kaskaskia. He had come down the Ohio, landed at Fort Massac, and made a forced march across country.<sup>2</sup> By the time Rocheblave learned of his approach, it was too late for the militia from Vincennes, whose aid the commandant had solicited, to be of any help. The local militia were apathetic.

Clark marched into Kaskaskia on the night of July 5, 1778, surprised Rocheblave in the fort, and took command of the village without resistance. Without delay he sent a detachment of thirty men under Captain Joseph Bowman to take possession of Cahokia. That village surrendered as easily as had Kaskaskia. Vincennes followed, capitulating to the persuasion of Father Gibault, the priest at Kaskaskia, who quickly embraced the American cause. Thus the Cross of St. George, which had supplanted the French Lilies over the Illinois, gave way to the Stars and Stripes of the United Colonies.

The weapons with which Clark accomplished his coup in the Illinois were the treaty recently made between France and the United Colonies, and the promise of freedom from the irksome military rule of the British. The French responded eagerly to the vision of a return to the unmolested prosperity they had enjoyed under the regime of the mother country. Their men enlisted in Clark's militia, their merchants furnished supplies and credit; when, in December of 1778, the British recaptured Vincennes and menaced the Mississippi villages, the French of the American Bottom formed two companies of their own to accompany Clark on the dangerous campaign in which the fort on the Wabash was finally wrested from British rule and the possession of the Northwest sealed to the Americans.

If Clark's conquest of the villages on the Mississippi had been a comparatively easy one, the governing of his acquisition was attended with more difficulties. The Kaskaskia district, in particular, was riven with internal party disputes, and it required considerable ingenuity to maintain a common loyalty among the warring factions.<sup>3</sup> Unscrupulous traders were still supplying the Indians with liquor, in spite of the promise given on their honor to Rocheblave not to do so.<sup>4</sup> Under the excitement of intoxication, the

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1. Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. xl.

2. For Clark's narrative of this journey, and his subsequent exploits, see his "Memoir" in William Hayden English, Conquest of the Country Northwest of the River Ohio, 1778-1783, and Life of General George Rogers Clark (Indianapolis and Kansas City: Bowen Merrill, 1896), v. I.

3. Alvord op, cit., p. xxxvii, xlv.

4. Ibid., p. xxxii.



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usually peaceful tribesmen were a serious menace. Moreover, the Negro slaves, who had served the French for several generations, were becoming unruly; a plot among them to poison certain of their masters, as well as other Negroes, was uncovered at Cahokia.<sup>1</sup> The radical differences in temperament between the rough Virginia soldiers recruited from the backwoods, and the quiet living, authority-respecting French, was a source of potential trouble. Clark had not enough men to attempt a rule by military force, and for money, had only continental paper and orders on the depleted treasury of Virginia. The distance from Williamsburg and the difficulty of communication precluded his relying on legislative or gubernatorial authority for his acts. He had only his own resourcefulness, energy, and good sense on which to depend.

He acted with promptness and vigor. Himself acting as commandant immediately responsible for military activities, he established courts "of civil judicature, elected by the people,"<sup>2</sup> with the power of appeal in his own hands. The first of these courts was set up at Cahokia, probably about the middle of October, 1778.<sup>3</sup> Major Bowman, in command of the troops there, was elected judge.<sup>4</sup> The court at Kaskaskia began its life a few weeks later.

The importance of these courts lies in the fact that, although short-lived under their original organization, they formed the foundation of American government throughout the period of growing pains suffered by the Illinois country from the time of its seizure by Clark in 1778 to the coming of Governor St. Clair in 1790. They "were modelled after the county courts of Virginia, with some modifications. The number of justices sitting at Cahokia was seven, four of whom were necessary for a quorum; the sessions were held weekly; the jurisdiction included both criminal and civil cases; the records of the sessions were kept in English. Since the members of this committee were elected by popular vote, the first election of chief magistrates ever held on the soil of Illinois or of the old Northwest was that at Cahokia in the month of October, in the year 1778."<sup>5</sup> Since only a few stray leaves from the record of this court remain to us,<sup>6</sup> the details of its operation are mostly unknown.

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1. Prosecution of the plotters appears in the records of the Cahokia Court through several months. The chief offenders were sentenced to death. Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 4-21.
  2. Clark's "Memoir" in English, Conquest of the Country Northwest, I, 484.
  3. For the establishment of the date, see Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. xlvii, xlvi.
  4. Clark's "Memoir," *loc. cit.*
  5. Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. xlvi.
  6. These are preserved in the courthouse at Belleville. They have been bound by mistake with the minutes of the general court of Illinois Territory, St. Clair County, April term, 1811. They are published in Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. 4-8.



## Historical Sketch

The courts relieved Clark of most of his civil responsibility, including the regulation of traffic with the Indians.<sup>1</sup> He himself issued a stringent ordinance regulating the activities of slaves and forbidding the sale of liquor to them;<sup>2</sup> by the force of his personality he was able to keep his unruly soldiers somewhat in check; but with the money situation he was powerless to cope. Virginia was impoverished by the war with England, and unable to back her notes with specie. At first the French traders accepted the paper - both the government issues and the orders on Oliver Pollock, the Virginia agent at New Orleans - in complete faith of their being paid at their face value. Their rejoicing at the promise of a free government led them to give freely - some to the point of sacrifice - of their stores, with only paper as payment. The situation was made worse by the fact that their accustomed trade with Canada was cut off when the Americans took possession. Within half a year after Clark's arrival, speculators appeared who bought so furiously that the merchants became suspicious, raised their prices, and parted with their goods to the military with greatest reluctance. In the spring of 1779 Clark wrote to the Governor of Virginia, "Provision is three times the price it was two months past, and to be got by no other means than by my own bonds, goods, and force."<sup>3</sup>

The situation went from bad to worse; eventually Clark was obliged to quarter his troops on the people. This additional hardship on the inhabitants, and the inability to collect on their notes, became the subjects of memorials from the French people, asking redress.<sup>4</sup> Little could be done, however, for the troops must be maintained if the territory were to be held, Virginia had no more money, and Continental currency was depreciating. Most of the men, French and American, including Clark himself, who impoverished themselves for the American cause, never received payment for their debts.<sup>5</sup>

### The County of Illinois

The Virginia Assembly was not insensible to Clark's difficulties, and set about at once to provide a permanent and more authoritative government.

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1. See Cahokia Court Record, November 26 and December 17, 1779 in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 29-35. These records, written in French, are preserved in the courthouse at Belleville, and are listed in this inventory (See Appendix, N). For facility in referring to them, however, reference in this sketch is made to Mr. Alvord's able translation in the work mentioned above, rather than to the original.
  2. Kaskaskia Court Record, Kaskaskia Manuscripts, folio 132.
  3. English, Conquest of the Northwest, I, 400.
  4. See "Inhabitants of Cahokia to De la Balme, September, 1780" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 535, 553.
  5. Among the Cahokians, the list includes the names of Charles Gratiot, Francois Trottier, Jean Giraut, Jean Baptiste La Croix, and Richard McCarty.

On December 9, 1778, the act creating the County of Illinois was passed.<sup>1</sup> Thus the tradition of county government became established in Illinois. The boundaries of the new county were vague, but embraced the area from the Ohio River to the Illinois River, with the Mississippi as the western limit, and northward to the Great Lakes region still disputed with the British. The Act was to be in force "during the term of twelve months, and from thence to the end of the next session of assembly and no longer."<sup>2</sup>

By it, the executive power was vested in a county lieutenant who might appoint military officers to serve under him. Civil officers were to be elected by the people, and were to "exercise their several jurisdictions, and conduct themselves agreeable to the laws which the present settlers are now accustomed to."<sup>3</sup>

Thus the Virginia law was not fully extended to the Illinois. Since the law to which the inhabitants were accustomed was the Coutume de Paris with a few characteristic American additions introduced by Clark, the district continued to operate under an admixture of French and Virginia law.

The county lieutenant appointed by Governor Patrick Henry was John Todd, a native of Pennsylvania who had been educated in Virginia, served in the wars along the frontier, and at the time of his appointment was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. He arrived in Kaskaskia in May, 1779, and was eagerly welcomed by his friend Clark, who in the midst of preparations for a campaign against the British at Detroit, was glad to be relieved of other responsibilities.

Todd and the new government whose representative he was, were introduced to the people with appropriate ceremonies at a gathering before the door of the church in Kaskaskia on May 12, 1779. The captains of militia had already been appointed - important men in their communities, most of whom had already been serving under Clark.<sup>4</sup> The purpose of this assembly was the election of the officers of the new court. It was made an occasion of festivity, for the people believed this was the day that inaugurated their final freedom from military rule. Addresses were made by both Clark and Todd.<sup>5</sup> They were received with enthusiasm, and Todd was assured the initial good will of the people he was to govern.

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1. William Waller Hening, Statutes at Large (Virginia), IX, 532. For a reprint of the Act, and the history of its passage, see Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 9.
  2. "Act Creating the County of Illinois" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 11.
  3. Ibid., p. 10.
  4. The Militia, formed among the inhabitants themselves, is not to be confused with the "regular" troops stationed in the garrisons.
  5. The original of Clark's speech is in the Draper Collection of manuscripts in the library of the Wisconsin Historical Society at Madison; the original of Todd's in the Chicago Historical Society. For translations, see Alvord, op. cit., p. lviii-lx.

## Historical Sketch

Knowing the impossibility of one court's serving so large a territory, Todd divided the county into three districts with an independent court for each. Besides the Kaskaskia district were the Vincennes and Cahokia districts. The latter embraced the villages of Prairie de Pont and Cahokia itself, and extended as far north as Peoria. The first record from the Cahokia court is dated June 10, 1779.<sup>1</sup> It shows the members of the court to be Pierre Godin, president, Francois Trottier - who was also commandant of the village under Todd - Charles Gratiot, Baptiste Saucier, Antoine Girardin, and Michel Beaulieu. Francois Saucier signed as clerk, as he did for many years thereafter. Since it was Cahokia that later became the seat of justice of St. Clair County, the operation of this court only will be followed in the present sketch.

Todd found himself confronted by substantially the same problems that Clark had tried to meet, and he attacked them with equal vigor. No sooner had he appointed the militia captains and established the courts, than he set about to combat the speculation in land which had commenced - or rather revived - almost the moment the news of Clark's conquest had reached the east. He issued an ordinance forbidding "any New Settlements upon the Flat lands unless In Manor and form of Settlement as heretofore made by the French Inhabitants until further Orders given here on."<sup>2</sup> He attempted a solution of the money problem, which was daily growing more harassing, by exchanging the treasury notes for certificates entitling the holder, who must have lent at least \$100 to the government, either to the amount of his loan in gold or silver, or to title to a tract of land, 21,000 acres of which was set off near Cahokia for the purpose. He also endeavored to purchase a sufficient store of supplies for the soldiers so that their depredations on the inhabitants' swine and cattle running in the commons might be ended.

In none of the measures he attempted did he accomplish any lasting success, unless the court set up at Cahokia may be excepted. The sorry details of his failures are outside the scope of this sketch. It is enough to recount that his motives in the land certificate deal were misinterpreted, his efforts at mediation between the French and the soldiery were misunderstood by both parties, and in spite of his efforts to establish a civil government which would actually insure to the people the

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1. This first record exists as a transcript made by the clerk of the Cahokia court for the court at Kaskaskia, and carries the certification, "copy conforms to the original spread on the record-book of the court." Cahokia Transcripts in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 19. The case concerned t Negro slaves indicted for poisoning, previously mentioned, and was submitted to the superior jurisdiction of the Kaskaskia court.
  2. "John Todd's Record Book" in Mason, Early Chicago and Illinois, p. 301.



freedom for which they longed and which both he and Clark had promised them, strife and confusion were increasing. Convinced that the task he had undertaken was too great for him, he left Illinois, retaining his position as county lieutenant and appointing Richard Winston, a trader of long standing in Kaskaskia, as deputy to act in his stead. Winston remained in office until 1783.

By this time the relations between the civil and military factions in the villages had come to a practically irreparable breach, and Winston did not exert himself to heal it. Colonel Montgomery had been placed in command of the Illinois after Clark's withdrawal to the Ohio following the collapse of his Detroit campaign in the summer of 1779. Serving under him were Captain John Williams in charge of Fort Clark at Kaskaskia and Captain Richard McCarty in command of Fort Bowman at Cahokia.

Todd's culminating mistake, so far as bringing about a peaceable relation between the two parties is concerned, was to hoard for future needs a large store of peltries he had bought in Cahokia, with which Montgomery had been planning to pay the French for supplies furnished his troops. The commandant had already exhausted his powers of persuasion in collecting provisions, and Todd's action made it necessary for him to resort to seizure for any more - a method he was loathe at first to employ, but from which he had no recourse. Todd, before he left, had agreed to it.<sup>1</sup> McCarty, at Cahokia, had no scruples, and his tyrannous management in the village where he had long been known, and even served as clerk of Clark's court, was the cause of much bitterness.<sup>2</sup>

It should be stated here that in all the ills they suffered, the inhabitants never held either Clark or Todd responsible for their misery. They recognized the overwhelming difficulties under which the two men labored and their loyalty to the American cause was at that time genuine and unswerving. But their patience was exhausted by the constant maraudings of the soldiers, by the increasing burden of their support with no pay but worthless paper, and by the long deferring of the civil liberties they had been led to expect.

This feeling, however, they did not extend to the American soldiers or their officers, nor to the new county lieutenant. In their long years of experience with him as a trader, they had learned to distrust Winston, and after his appointment they felt that he was on the side of the military. This in spite of the fact that he and Montgomery were bitter enemies. The people of Cahokia, on the whole, suffered less than those of Kaskaskia. They had no troops quartered in their homes in the winter of 1779-80, McCarty's force having been withdrawn to Kaskaskia, and they had at least been able to cultivate their fields that year without having their draft-oxen shot to feed the soldiers. Being removed from the seat

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1. Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. lxxviii.

2. "Inhabitants of Cahokia to De la Balme September, 1780" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 543.



## Historical Sketch

Of the county government where the party contention was stronger, their court was able to function without interference and with greater effectiveness than that of the southern village. They did not escape entirely however. In response to a petition of the Kaskaskians that the other villages be made to contribute to the maintenance of the troops,<sup>1</sup> Montgomery demanded of the court at Cahokia a levy upon the inhabitants. "The court agreed that a census shall be made and that those who can furnish some provisions, either flour or corn, shall be forced to do so, according to their capacity."<sup>2</sup> They agreed the more promptly, perhaps, because they wished to avoid a repetition of the seizure of their flour, such as had taken place the year before, when their mills had been sealed with the seal of Virginia.<sup>3</sup> In their acquiescence on this occasion and in all the later assistance given the Americans, their grievances were not forgotten, as subsequent events will show.

If the Cahokians were somewhat eased from military oppression, and their civic affairs running with comparative smoothness, they had other worries. The British had never relinquished their hope of recovering the western territory, and to that end were planning an expedition against all the Spanish posts on the Mississippi for the spring of 1780. Their agents were constantly busy fanning the hostility of the Indians to the Americans and the French, their erstwhile friends. This, with the continued surreptitious sale of liquor to the savages made attacks from them a continual source of alarm. In December 1779, the court investigated some of the rumors brought to them, and as a result instructed the officers of the militia to see that all houses were provided with guns and ammunition, "without any excuse, because, to all appearances, there are in the neighborhood of the village nations who are holding hostile talks and are very evilly disposed. . ."<sup>4</sup>

By April, the situation had become so critical that the Cahokians sent Charles Gratiot with a message to Clark at Fort Jefferson on the Ohio, urging him to come with all speed to their aid.<sup>5</sup> Montgomery, at Kaskaskia, had

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1. "People of Kaskaskia to the Magistrates of the District," "Magistrates of Kaskaskia to Montgomery" in (Menard Collections) Tardiveau Papers, translation in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. lxxxii.
  2. "Cahokia Court Record, January 19, 1780" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 35.
  3. See "Inhabitants of Cahokia to De la Balme, September, 1780" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 545.
  4. "Cahokia Court Record, December 17, 1779" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 35.
  5. "Inhabitants of Cahokia to G. R. Clark, April 11, 1780" in Alvord, op. cit., 531. This letter reveals both the Cahokians' attitude toward Clark and the distressed condition of the village following the severe winter" . . . . we take the liberty of addressing ourselves to you on account of the confidence and hope which we have in your benevolence and affection, which you have always shown us, but what affects us most is this, in case you send us more men, we should not have the provisions which would be necessary for them."

received a similar communication from the Spanish commandant at St. Louis. Both officers hurried to Cahokia and, together with the militia, warded off the attack which was made on that village and on St. Louis in May. The Indian alarms continued throughout the summer, and in July the Cahokians joined forces with the Spaniards in keeping a watch to protect the villages in case of fresh attacks.<sup>1</sup>

Montgomery, with three hundred men, among whom were many Cahokians, as well as Spaniards, undertook a punitive expedition against the Indians, pushing to the Rock River. Once more, the French had exerted themselves to aid Clark in holding the American possessions in the West. But they were disgusted by the failure of the expedition, caused, they felt, by the "lack of management and bad conduct" of the Virginians. "This is one of the greatest subjects about which all the young men complain, and they no longer wish to hear talk of following the Virginians to any place whatsoever."<sup>2</sup>

Thus the ground was made fertile for the growth of a changed loyalty which might have cost the Americans the Illinois, had the seeds been planted sooner. In the summer of 1780 there appeared in the villages a French officer by the name of Augustin Mottin de la Balme. He seems to have been engaged on a mission, probably actuated or at least approved by Washington, to distract the British from the eastern front of the war by persuading the western Americans and French to join with the Canadians against England.<sup>3</sup> The chaotic conditions he found in the Illinois caused him to change his tack somewhat.

He was clever enough to discredit the Virginians without alienating the people from the United Colonies. But his great emphasis was on the protection of the King of France. The oppressed villagers welcomed him as a deliverer and immediately saw themselves restored to the kindly ministrations of their benevolent father across the water. The Cahokians poured out to him in a memorial the tale of their sufferings at the hands of the Virginians, hoping by some means to obtain redress.<sup>4</sup> Impoverished as the villages were, the young men flocked to his standard - the flag of France - and marched with him towards Detroit. A company from Cahokia moved against St. Joseph. Each detachment won a victory, but each was later defeated by Indian parties, and De la Balme was killed.<sup>5</sup> The hopes of the French for a return to France were destroyed. But from the ex-

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1. "Cahokia Court Record, July 6, 1780" in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 59.

2. "Inhabitants of Cahokia to De la Balme, September, 1780" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 541.

3. Alvord, op. cit., p. lxxxix.

4. "Inhabitants of Cahokia to De la Balme, September, 1780" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 535ff.

5. The Cahokians, in reprisal, gathered a force of their own men, a number of Spaniards and about two hundred Indians, and early in 1781, destroyed St. Joseph.

## Historical Sketch

perience they had gained one thing - a spirit of independence from military rule. They were encouraged now to appeal directly to the governor of Virginia and later to Congress, instead of petitioning the officers directly over them. Unfortunately the papers they had sent by De la Balme were captured by the British at the time of his death.

In the meantime Winston had been pursuing a vacillating policy at Kaskaskia, and had incurred the distrust of the leaders of all parties.<sup>1</sup> The French were convinced that he was betraying them to the military; at the same time his relations with Captain Rogers, who had succeeded Montgomery in command of the troops, were so unfriendly that he advised the inhabitants to withhold all provisions from the soldiers. Rogers himself was a ruthless taskmaster and he early came under the influence of two dubious characters who had come into the Illinois about 1780 - John Dodge and Thomas Bentley. These three men were so bent upon enriching themselves at the expense of both the inhabitants who were impoverished by the levies, and the troops who were reduced almost to nakedness and starvation, that Kaskaskia fell into a condition of chaos. Winston was either unable or unwilling to take a firm hand in curbing their activities.<sup>2</sup>

Cahokia was less affected by the machinations of the trio than Kaskaskia. But when, after an attempt on the part of the Kaskaskia court to bring action against Bentley, the three went to Virginia to appeal the case to the governor, the Cahokians were aroused to join with their neighbors in a vigorous protest against the gross mistreatment to which the whole section was being subjected. Memorials setting forth their grievances were prepared in both villages, and these, together with the accounts of the inhabitants who had lent money or sold goods on credit to the state, were sent by representatives to Williamsburg. The men entrusted with the papers were Pierre Prevost and Richard McCarty; the latter disgusted with the turn affairs had taken, had allied himself completely with the French party. The Cahokia court, having in remembrance the highhanded treatment they had received from McCarty, endorsed only Prevost.<sup>3</sup> The papers were never delivered. Prevost and McCarty were attacked by Indians on the way and McCarty was killed. Like the De la Balme memorial, these documents, setting forth the thorough dissatisfaction of the French with American administration, were carried to the British.

The British were not slow to realize upon the revelation of the attitude of the French gained from the memorials. If their allegiance to the Colonies were so tenuous, could it not be diverted to England as well as to France? In June of 1781 British agents appeared in St. Louis,

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1. Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. lxxxv-lxxxvii.

2. See letter of Winston to Todd in Virginia State Papers, I, 380.

3. Alvord, op. cit., p. 479.



with letters to the Kaskaskians and Cahokians. Their actions aroused the suspicions of the Spanish commandant, who arrested them but allowed them to go to Cahokia, where they were put under bond and their movements strictly watched.<sup>1</sup> That they met with some success is shown by a letter given one of them by Antoine Girardin and addressed to Governor Sinclair. Girardin was one of the most influential men in Cahokia, had been a member of Todd's court, and carried considerable weight in the community. His letter indicates his willingness to treat with the British - indeed he made himself responsible for one of the spies and accomplished his escape - and suggests that the inhabitants "would not be offended at seeing themselves again dependent and subject to the British government," and pledged his aid.<sup>2</sup> Since most of the American troops were withdrawn from the Illinois in the Autumn of 1781, the British might not have experienced much difficulty in repossessing the territory. But by the time they got around to take advantage of the friendly attitude toward them, the war in the east had been concluded.

Clark wrote to the Kaskaskians expressing the hope that the cessation of the war would bring a happy issue out of their afflictions, and urging them in the meantime to continue their court, prosecuting with vigor the theft and vandalism threatening their internal peace.<sup>3</sup> Clark's long distance control was insufficient to hold together the discordant elements of his country. In July, 1783, terms of peace having been reached between the United States and England and the danger of invasion of the West through Canada having been removed, Clark was relieved of his command in the Illinois.<sup>4</sup>

In Kaskaskia, the bitter fight between Deputy County Lieutenant Winston and the speculators Dodge and Bentley continued until Winston, defeated, gave up his post and returned to Virginia. One of his last official acts was to abolish the court of the district of Kaskaskia.<sup>5</sup> He left in his place Timothe de Monbreun, who was to administer whatever civil government the Illinois was to have for the next several years.

### The Interregnum

The existence of the County of Illinois had ended in 1782. Virginia had ceded the territory to the United States, but Congress delayed

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1. "Cahokia Court Record, June 21, 1781" in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 95.
  2. "Girardin to Sinclair, November 3, 1781" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 559.
  3. "Letter of Clark to the Court at Kaskaskia," Kaskaskia Manuscripts.
  4. English, Conquest of the Northwest, II, 783.
  5. Alvord, op. cit., p. cxvii.

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action on the cession till March, 1784.<sup>1</sup> Shortly after the expiration of the term allowed for the county, three commissioners were sent from Virginia to investigate the claims of the Illinois citizens against the state; very little came of the investigation, and Virginia made no further attempt to maintain a connection with her former dependency. Virginia had given up control and Congress had not yet assumed it. From 1783 until after the passage of the Northwest Ordinance in 1787, the Illinois communities were entirely on their own resources.

De Monbreun was able by means of councils to hold in check the Indians, who throughout this period were troublesome, and to maintain diplomatic relations with the Spanish governor at St. Louis even in the face of intrigues which were uncovered. But with his own constituency he had no greater success than had his predecessors Todd and Winston.

In Kaskaskia the turmoil, amounting almost to anarchy, continued. It is unnecessary to record here the details of the struggle; it is enough to point out that the chief factors in the deterioration were first, the presence of unruly and unscrupulous Americans who arrogated to themselves lands, trading privileges, and authorities given to them by no law, and second the broken spirit of the French who had been bandied about from one group of despoilers to another until they had lost the initiative and the ability to govern themselves. In the summer of 1786 De Monbreun resigned, appointing as his successor Jean Baptiste Barbau, an influential Frenchman of Prairie du Rocher.

After the passage of the Ordinance of 1787, Congress sent Colonel Harmar, military commander for the Northwest Territory, into the Illinois to make a report on conditions there. He was not impressed by what he saw. An attempt was made at Kaskaskia to draw him into the dispute between Dodge, Bentley, and the French party. This he avoided, but even his observation of the orderly condition of Cahokia under the administration of the court was not sufficient to convince him that the inhabitants were anything but a quarrelsome, unintelligent outfit, incapable of responding to any government other than military force.<sup>2</sup>

Harmar's coming made no change in the governmental situation. The principal outcome of his visit was the beginning of a series of transactions on land titles, a vexatious problem for the next two decades. Harmar informed the people that the grants made by the courts and the county lieutenants were void because Congress had forbidden settlements

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1. Hening, Statutes at Large, XI, 571ff.

2. "Harmar to Congress" in Smith, St. Clair Papers, II, 32.

## Historical Sketch

north of the Ohio River.<sup>1</sup> This affected the American settlers more than the French, as most of the Frenchmen hold their land from the old seignories, the titles of which were respected. With Harmar was a Frenchman, Barthelomi Tardiveau, who saw in the land situation the prospect of making a fortune for himself at the same time he might secure satisfaction for the settlers. He promised the Americans to obtain grants for them from Congress on the basis of their having improved land which they supposed was legally theirs; with the French he agreed to appeal to Congress to make reparation for their wrongs by gifts of valuable land. One tenth of all land he secured was to be his own.<sup>2</sup> He succeeded in convincing Congress of the justice of his proposition. Under three congressional acts passed between 1788 and 1791, the American titles to improved lands were established, and the French received a grant of 400 acres to the head of each family living in the villages in 1783 and 100 acres to each man enlisted in the militia in 1790.<sup>3</sup> For the Americans this land proved the foundation upon which the subsequent civilization of the state was built. But the French profited little; unaccustomed to the use of land for speculation, most of them disposed of their grants before they had reaped any benefit from them.

Under Barbau an attempt was made to reestablish the court while the people were waiting for the government which Congress had promised them to be set up. But it was too late for such a court to be effective. Without a superior authority the inhabitants would not submit to the court they themselves had created. Barbau was powerless to combat the forces of self-interest and insubordination that were working toward the ruin of the community.

The Indians, particularly the Kickapoos and Potawatomis, without the deterrent presence of American troops, and incited by both Spanish and British competitors for the American fur trade, were again menacing the villages. The Spaniards were encouraging the anarchism in order to draw more citizens to their own borders. Once more there was a heavy emigration of the more substantial citizens to the Spanish bank. Between 1783 and 1790 the population of Kaskaskia dwindled from 194 heads of families to 44.<sup>4</sup> The inhabitants who remained had become so demoralized that they scarcely possessed the initiative to plant and tend their crops.<sup>5</sup>

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1. Smith, St. Clair Papers, II, 31.
  2. "Agreement Between The Inhabitants of Cahokia and Tardiveau, August 27, 1787" in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 591.
  3. Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. cxi.
  4. Mason, "Early Illinois Citizens" in Chicago Historical Society's Collections, IV, 198ff.
  5. Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. cxliv.



## Historical Sketch

The guiding spirit in Kaskaskia during the last difficult years was John Edgar, a merchant who had come into the country in 1784. With him was John Rice Jones,<sup>1</sup> who had been sent from Vincennes by Clark to bargain for supplies for his troops there. These two men stood for whatever of law and order there was in the community, and between the Dodge faction and the Spaniards, they were almost driven out. In October, 1789, Edgar wrote to Major Hamtramck, stationed at Vincennes, appealing for a small military force, and offering, himself, to support twenty men. There was so much sickness among the soldiers at the post that Hamtramck was unable to comply with this request. Whereupon Edgar wrote him, in the late fall of 1789, that unless a government arrived by March of the following year he would be compelled to move to St. Louis. "Inclination, interest and love for the country prompt me to reside here, but when in so doing it is ten to one but both my life and property will fall a sacrifice, you nor any impartial mind can blame me for the part I shall take."<sup>2</sup>

The processes that brought about the ruin of Kaskaskia were not evident in Cahokia. For one thing, fewer of the turbulent, backwoods soldier type of Americans settled there; the land grants that were made by Clark, Montgomery, and their successors were located chiefly in the neighborhood of Kaskaskia. Only four citizens of Cahokia during this time were not French; Thomas Brady, Phillippe Engel, Isaac Levy, and William Arundel. All of them seem to have fitted themselves into the life of the village; all save Arundel married French wives.<sup>3</sup> For another thing the village, not being the seat of county government, had not attracted the political hangers-on and those ambitious to seize power in their own hands. Cahokia was never ridden with the strife of warring factions that disrupted the southern village. It may be that the inhabitants themselves were of a more self-reliant nature and better able to cope with their internal problems. It is certain that they wished to avoid the evils they saw at work among their neighbors, for in a memorial written in July, 1786, they petitioned Congress to be allowed to govern themselves independently, "without the distress of being submitted to any other court."<sup>4</sup> They continued the court that Todd set up for them in 1779, without interruption, to the day of Governor St. Clair's arrival

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1. Jones's mission was an illegal one, since Clark had no authority either from Virginia or from Congress to operate in the Illinois. But Jones himself was a person of integrity, and opposed the machinations of Dodge and his associates.
  2. "Edgar to Hamtramck, October 28, 1789" in (Draper Collection) Harmer Papers, II, 132-36.
  3. Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. cxlviii.
  4. "Inhabitants of Cahokia to Congress, July 15, 1786" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 587.

in 1790, with a form of government authorized by the laws of the United States, according it the same respect throughout as when it was backed by the authority of Todd. Elections were held regularly in June of each year to 1787, to select judges, and the names appearing in the records are those of the most solid men in the community.<sup>1</sup>

After Todd's departure, the county lieutenant interfered very little with affairs at Cahokia. Winston was too much embroiled in his own troubles; De Monbreun made visits to hold councils with the Indians, but seems to have made no attempt to exercise control over the court; Barbau's name appears only once in the Cahokia records during the years of his incumbency, and that is in relation to a minor dispute.<sup>2</sup> The village commandant during these years was Francois Trottier, a man of firm character and good judgment. He served as president of the court during its first two years in addition to commanding the militia. It is probable that much of the prosperity of the district was the result of his vigorous and just administration.

Although the Americans did not invade Cahokia itself, they had made settlements in the district. The nearest was at Grand Ruisseau, against the bluffs along the road to Kaskaskia. This village had been settled about 1781 by a group of families who came up from Fort Jefferson after its abandonment by Clark. A few miles farther south and actually within the district of Kaskaskia, was Bellefontaine, settled in 1779 by permission of Colonel Montgomery.<sup>3</sup> Most prominent in these communities were Shadrach Bond, Robert Watts, James Moore, and the Smiths, Henry and Nicolas. The inhabitants of Grand Ruisseau, under the jurisdiction of the court of Cahokia, elected their own captain of militia, and arbitrated their own disputes, but submitted important matters to the district court.<sup>4</sup> Bellefontaine had originally been attached to the court of Kaskaskia, but with the dissolution of that court had been left to itself. Imbued with the spirit of disunion and inharmony that characterized the Kaskaskians, the leaders at Bellefontaine combined with those at Grand Ruisseau to set up

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1. It is noticeable through the records that the French had not the least hesitation in bringing suit for debt or the adjustment of some other disagreement against a member of the court while he was sitting. The record does not show that the defendant left the bench, and the decision is as often against the member of the court as in his favor. See Reynal vs. Gratiot, LaCroix vs. Saucier, Pillet vs. Saucier, Court Record in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 29,37,47.
  2. "Court Record, October, 1788" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 345.
  3. Reynolds, My Own Times, p. 59.
  4. "Court Record, January 2, 1786" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 217.

## Historical Sketch

an independent court to serve the two villages. They went so far as to hold an election for justices.

The court at Cahokia was not concerned with Bellefontaine, since it was out of the district. But the action of Grand Ruisseau was an affront to the authority of the one civil body that had maintained its existence through all the tumultuous years. It was Robert Watts, commissioned by the court as commandant of Grand Ruisseau, who on September 14, 1787, brought the news of the rebellion. Perhaps the fact that he was about to be supplanted in office through the illegal election may have lent zeal to his words; he appealed in vigorous terms to the court to assert its authority and put an end to the insubordination.<sup>1</sup> The justices recognized the danger. They did not propose to tolerate a single step that would lead in the direction of Kaskaskian anarchy. Three days later an order was published prohibiting the holding of any assemblies "or of devising any justice or militia independent of the court of Cahokia, on pain of (the offender's) being driven from the district and of the confiscation of his property."<sup>2</sup> The leaders of the insurrection, Benjamin Rogers and James Piggott, were condemned to be placed in irons for twenty-four hours as punishment. Having established its supremacy in the district, the court, in October of 1787, granted the petition of Bellefontaine to elect a court of its own subject to the district court, and in November confirmed the election of justices at both villages.<sup>3</sup>

From the first, the Cahokia court had kept firm supervision over two matters which had contributed to the confusion at Kaskaskia. One was the regulation of trade. The presence of British traders - particularly those connected with the Michillimackinac Company which had a large store at Cahokia - had always been a source of contention. The agents did all in their power to monopolize the trade and cut off the profits from the inhabitants; they endeavored to divert the Indian trade also to themselves. This aroused the court to measures of protection. They granted to Jean Baptiste LaCroix, a leading merchant of Cahokia, the exclusive right of trade with the Indians. When he surrendered his license, it was granted to Isaac Levy and Tom Brady. The other matter, closely allied with trade, was the sale of liquor to the Indians, indulged in by nearly all traders. We have seen that regulation of this abuse was one of the early acts of the court. So carefully were infringements noted and more stringent ordinances issued, that the Cahokians were able to avert the danger of savage attacks at a time when Kaskaskia was forced to appeal for military aid.<sup>4</sup>

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1. "Address by Robert Watts, September 14, 1787" in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 597ff.
  2. "Sentence against Piggott and Rogers, September 17, 1787" in Alvord, op. cit., p. 605.
  3. "Court Record, November 1787," in Alvord, op. cit., p. 307.
  4. "Ordinances of the Court," in Alvord, op. cit., p. 73,125,215,259,575ff.



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Because of the ability of the Cahokia court to maintain peace and order, the village did not experience the heavy emigration that depleted the southern villages. In the early years the Virginia troops were working havoc, a number of the leading men, including Charles Gratiot, crossed to St. Louis.<sup>1</sup> After the withdrawal of the soldiers, the emigration practically ceased. Indeed, some of the disgusted citizens of Kaskaskia took up their homes in the northerly village. Among these was Joseph Labuxierre, who was state's attorney for the County of Illinois, and later served as clerk of the Cahokia court.<sup>2</sup> Instead of diminishing, the population of Cahokia was increasing. In 1778 there had been 300 white persons; the census of 1787 showed 240 male inhabitants or about 400 total; by 1790 the number had increased sufficiently that the village had three companies of militia, numbering 54, 65, and 81 men.<sup>3</sup>

During several years the inhabitants had been sending to Congress memorials beseeching a form of government that would have the stamp of legal authority, and asking for a settlement of their land titles. Most of these emanated from Kaskaskia, but the Cahokians joined in a petition in 1784, and in 1786 sent one independently, because they feared that the answers of Congress had "been intercepted at the village of Kaskaskia."<sup>4</sup> In January, 1787, Congress sent a messenger to Barbau with the disappointing word that the petitions had been heard, but a plan of government was still under advisement.<sup>5</sup> With the passage of the Northwest Ordinance on July 13, 1787, the form of government was determined, and the next year General Arthur St. Clair was appointed governor of the territory.

In expectation of the new government which they had eagerly awaited for so many years, the Cahokians ceased to hold elections for the replacement of their justices. In August, 1788, three vacancies in the court were filled by an election which was the last one held in the County of Illinois.<sup>6</sup> The justices then on the bench continued to function until the arrival of Governor St. Clair. This was delayed for two years; the governor arrived in Kaskaskia on the fifth of March, 1790. On April 27, he issued the proclamation establishing St. Clair County, and the machinery of the new government was set in motion shortly after. The Cahokia court

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1. "Gratiot to Clark, August 1, 1781" in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 557.
  2. "Labuxierre to Congress, July 17, 1786" in Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. 589.
  3. Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. xv, 632; Mason, "Early Illinois Citizens" in Chicago Historical Society's Collections, IV, 216 ff.
  4. "Inhabitants of Cahokia to Congress November 1784," also July 15, 1786 in Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. 567, 581.
  5. Alvord, *op. cit.*, p. cxxxiii.
  6. *Ibid.*, p. cxlvii.

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continued to transact its regular business until April first. The last case considered is continued to the next session. The record ends with a prudent provision for adjournment "to the first of May next," and is signed by Antoine Girardin, president.<sup>1</sup>

Thus was ended the last attempt of the French in Illinois to govern themselves. Considering the span of time since the settlement of Cahokia - almost a century - the French influence on the future development of the region was remarkably small. Although many of the inhabitants of the villages remained, the French customs there persisted for many years, the character of the civilization, after the coming of St. Clair, rapidly took on the American flavor. The story of the quarter-century preceding is the story of the unequal struggle between peoples of ill-matched virility, and the consequent disintegration of the weaker group. Much as their dusky predecessors had been swept away by an invading white civilization, the French were superseded by a tougher, more aggressive people. In Missouri, whither most of the inhabitants went who did not care to accept American jurisdiction, the French influence endured much longer; in the parish registers and the civic records of Missouri towns are to be found the names of the descendants of many of those families who represented the best and the worst of the French epoch in Illinois.

### The County of St. Clair

#### Northwest Territory

One of the provisions of the Ordinance of 1787, setting up the Northwest Territory, was, "for the prevention of crimes and injuries the laws to be adopted or made, shall have force in all parts of the district, and for the execution of process criminal and civil, the governor shall make proper division thereof; and he shall proceed from time to time, as circumstances may require, to lay out the parts of the district in which the Indian titles shall have been extinguished, into counties and townships, subject, however, to such alteration as may thereafter be made by the legislature."<sup>2</sup> It was by this authority that Governor St. Clair issued his proclamation erecting St. Clair County. The boundaries of the county were to be "beginning at the mouth of the Little Michilimackinac River, running thence southerly in a direct line to the mouth of the little river above Ft. Massac, on the Ohio River; thence with the Ohio to its junction

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1. "Court Record, April, 1790" in Alvord, Cahokia Records, p. 447.
  2. Laws of the Territory of the United States Northwest of the Ohio (Cincinnati: W. Maxwell, 1796), p. vi.

## Historical Sketch

with the Mississippi; thence up the Mississippi to the mouth of the Illinois River, and so up the Illinois River to the place of beginning, with all the adjacent islands of the said Illinois and Mississippi Rivers."<sup>1</sup> A glance at a map of the state will show how large a territory was to be administered by a single set of officers located at a single governmental center. The same area now comprises the whole of nineteen counties and parts of twelve others.<sup>2</sup> Governor St. Clair readily recognized the practical difficulties of establishing his government on the lines worked out for the Territory. The villages were far apart, and the roads between were bad and dangerous. None of the communities was populous enough to constitute a county in itself; in fact "the whole afforded barely a sufficient number of persons who were in any degree qualified to fill the necessary offices."<sup>3</sup>

He hit upon the plan of dividing the county into districts. There was no time to submit the proposition to the territorial government. By proclamation he ordained three judicial districts," viz: Cahokia, Prairie du Rocher, and Kaskaskia; in each of these, sessions of the several courts should be held during the year in some manner, as if each district represented a distinct county."<sup>4</sup>

The courts that were set up in the districts were the court of general quarter sessions of the peace, the court of common pleas, the justices' of the peace, and the probate courts. Like the judicial districts of St. Clair County, these courts were established by proclamation rather than by legislative action.<sup>5</sup> When, in 1788, the government for the new Northwest Territory commenced operations at Marietta, Ohio, the territorial capital, the governor and judges were confronted with the necessity of forming a code of suitable laws, drawn from the existing statutes of the original thirteen states. But there were no existing statutes to meet some of the exigencies of the Territory, and in these cases the officials drew up their own acts and proclaimed them as laws. Although the practice of having laws enacted by those who are to administer them is a dangerous one in a democracy - and one which St. Clair himself did not uphold<sup>6</sup> - most of the laws so created remained in force in the Territory, because they were practicable and necessary to good government, until 1795 when the second grade of territorial government was inaugurated and a new code enacted.<sup>7</sup>

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1. "Journal of Official Proceedings" in Smith St. Clair Papers, II, 165n.
  2. See map in Counties of Illinois, p. 17.
  3. "Governor St. Clair to the President, Report, March 5-June 11, 1790" in Smith, op. cit., II, 172.
  4. Ibid.
  5. Smith, op. cit., II, 80n.
  6. Smith, op. cit., I, 146, 147,
  7. Ibid., p. 145.



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The court of general quarter sessions of the peace was the superior court of the county and exercised general administrative authority including the division of the county into townships, the appointment of constables, overseers of the poor, and clerks of townships; it was empowered to estimate necessary expenses of government, and to pass upon the plans for public buildings submitted by the court of common pleas. As necessity for further regulation arose, the powers of the court were expanded to cover the supervision of prisons, the issuance of trade licenses, and the establishing of roads, ferries, and bridges.<sup>1</sup> Its jurisdiction included criminal cases involving life, long imprisonment, and forfeiture of property, as well as cases appealed from the lower court. As its name indicates, it convened four times a year.

The court of common pleas had jurisdiction over civil and minor criminal suits, with right of appeal to the general court of the Territory. Its sessions were likewise held quarterly.<sup>2</sup> There must be not more than five nor less than three justices; frequently the same justices sat in the two courts.

There was, in addition, a court of St. Clair County, composed of men from Cahokia and Grand Ruisseau;<sup>3</sup> the time of meeting and the limits of jurisdiction of this body are not made clear in the record.

As soon as the districts were determined and the courts established, St. Clair made his appointments. The justices of the court of quarter sessions, who served also as justices of the peace, were John Edgar, Philippe Engel, Antoine Girardin, and Antoine Louviere. For the court of common pleas, John Edgar was to serve for the Kaskaskia district, Jean Baptiste Barbeau for Prairie du Rocher, and Jean Dumoulin for Cahokia. The sheriff was William Biggs, and the clerk and prothonotary, William St. Clair. Barthelemy Tardiveau, whose activities in securing land grants for French and Americans alike had made him familiar with the various claims and titles, was appointed judge of probate.<sup>4</sup> William St. Clair was made recorder of deeds, Charles LeFerre coroner,

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1. Laws of the Northwest Territory, ed. Theodore Calvin Pease in Illinois Historical Collections, v. XVII, Law Series, I (Springfield; Illinois State Historical Library, 1925), p. 37, 69, 79, 82, 193, 215, 257, 452.
  2. "Journal of Official Proceedings" in Smith, St. Clair Papers, II, 167n.
  3. *Ibid.*, p. 165n. The justices were Francois Trottier, Francois Janis, Nicolas Smith, James Piggott, and Baptiste Saucier.
  4. "By the Ordinance for the government of the Territory, the laws and customs which had prevailed among the ancient settlers are to be continued, so far as respects the descent and conveyance of real property." "St. Clair to the President, Report, March 5 - June 11, 1790" in Smith, *op. cit.*, II, 172.

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and Girardin surveyor.<sup>1</sup> It is noteworthy that Governor St. Clair drew his officers mainly from among the inhabitants already acting in official capacities in their districts, men to whom the people were accustomed to look for leadership.

Besides the establishment of the civil government several other matters of immediate importance faced the Governor and he took measures, either on his own authority or through the passage of territorial laws, to settle them. His first act, even before erecting the county, had been to call upon the inhabitants to prove their claims to the lands allowed them under the recent acts of Congress. It was felt that little could be done to stabilize the country until the question of ownership of the land had been settled. Joseph Labuxierre, one time clerk of the old Cahokia court, was made notary to receive the claims of the French.<sup>2</sup> A proclamation was issued uniting the old seignior of the Mission of the Holy Family at Cahokia to the United States, thus putting those living on that land on the same footing with the other "ancient inhabitants" whose titles were secured to them.<sup>3</sup> One of the provisions under which the settlers were to receive their grants and donations was that the land was to be surveyed, the grantee to pay for the surveying. No surveyor could be found for the southern districts, but Antoine Girardin was appointed for Cahokia. St. Clair reported that few surveys were made anywhere because the people were too poor to pay for them.<sup>4</sup> Beyond these steps and the inclusion with his report to President Washington of detailed representations from and concerning the inhabitants, St. Clair could not go into the land question.

By proclamation, the inhabitants of the villages were forbidden to entertain strangers who had not first reported their names and business to the commandant; the hunting of game and cutting and removal of firewood by strangers was prohibited. These measures were designed to curb abuses from the Spanish bank. Orders were given for the erection of jails, and lots chosen. St. Clair regretted the necessity of laying down so many regulations by proclamation rather than by law, but saw no way to avoid it.<sup>5</sup> During the Summer of 1790, laws were enacted forbidding the sale of liquor to the Indians, and prohibiting foreigners from trading with the Indians on American soil.<sup>6</sup>

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1. "Journal of Official Proceedings, April 29, 1790" in Smith, St. Clair Papers, II, 165n.
  2. Ibid., p. 165-67n.
  3. "St. Clair to the President, Report, March 5 - June 11, 1790" in Smith, op. cit., II, 171.
  4. Ibid., p. 171-73.
  5. "St. Clair to the President, Report, March 5 - June 11, 1790" in Smith, op. cit., II, 171. President Washington wrote him a letter of kindly caution against thus exceeding his proper powers. "Gen. Washington to Gov. St. Clair (Private) January 2, 1791," op. cit., p. 198.
  6. "Journal of Official Proceedings" in Smith, op. cit., p. 167n.

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Governor St. Clair remained in Illinois until June, when the state of Indian affairs became so critical that he felt obliged to return to the capital. He commissioned his secretary, Colonel Sargent, to act in his absence.<sup>1</sup>

It would seem that with a wise set of laws for the regulation of affairs, and with courts provided at last with the authority to administer them, the condition of the districts comprising St. Clair County should have improved. But anarchy had reigned too long for a new civil government to run with strength and smoothness all at once, particularly in the southern districts. The population was still drifting to Missouri, won by the enticements of the Spanish. After three years, the courts at Kaskaskia and Prairie du Rocher were sitting only intermittently, and their control of internal affairs was weak. The militia was disorganized and the officers without inclination to enforce discipline -- even in the face of the introduction of fresh troops and military supplies by the Spaniards.<sup>2</sup>

The Cahokians maintained the same even keel they had held prior to St. Clair's coming. There the courts continued to hold sessions and transact the necessary business. The justices authorized the translation of the laws into French, and, in 1794, established for one month a school for the children of the village. The sessions of the court were held in the old fort -- possibly the building of which Captain Pitman had spoken so belittlingly thirty years before<sup>3</sup> now the dwelling of Francois Saucier. In 1793 the house was purchased from Saucier for \$1,000, to be used exclusively as a courthouse.<sup>4</sup> Thus, although not so ordained by proclamation, Cahokia had become for all practical purposes the county seat of St. Clair County.

It was not to be allowed to continue in this supremacy, however, without challenge. In 1794, St. Clair sent Judge Turner, one of the territorial justices, to the Illinois. He promptly declared Kaskaskia the seat of justice and ordered the removal of the records thither. When the clerk, William St. Clair, refused, Turner confiscated the records. The judge's entire visit was so filled with arbitrary and tyrannous acts, extending even to interference in Indian affairs, that the inhabitants took recourse to their old remedy of petitioning Congress for redress. The judge received a stern rebuke from Governor St. Clair,<sup>5</sup> and resigned his office.

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1. "Governor St. Clair to the President, Report, March 5 - June 11, 1790," St. Clair Papers, II, p. 179.
  2. "Wm. St. Clair to Governor St. Clair" in Smith, op. cit., p. 316, 317.
  3. See supra, p. 20n.3.
  4. For the history of the old courthouse building, see Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records, this Inventory, p. 125n.4.
  5. "Governor St. Clair to Judge Turner" in Smith, op. cit., 345.



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The next year the governor, accompanied by Judge Symmes, returned to the county to adjust if possible the ills arising from Judge Turner's illegal acts. They realized that harmony between the northern and southern portions of the county could never be achieved, and therefore, in October, 1795, St. Clair issued from Cahokia a proclamation dividing Randolph County from St. Clair.<sup>1</sup> The new county included all the territory below a line bisecting St. Clair a little south of the present northern boundaries of Randolph and Perry counties.<sup>2</sup> From such meager records as are preserved from the years between 1795 and 1800, the indications are that this separation brought a better adjustment to both sections, and civil government in both proceeded with a fair degree of smoothness.<sup>3</sup>

With the division of the county, it became necessary to reorganize the courts. The court of quarter sessions now consisted of eight justices. Those appointed for the new county were Jean Dumoulin, who had been justice of the Cahokia district on the old court of common pleas, James Piggott, one of the insurrectionists against the old Cahokia court,<sup>4</sup> and Baptiste Saucier from the court of St. Clair County, 1790-95, William St. Clair, the first clerk of the courts, William Biggs, the former sheriff of the county, and James Lemen, George Atchinson, and Shadrach Bond, men from the American settlements. The court of common pleas was made up of the same men with the exception of Lemen and Biggs. William St. Clair was made judge of probate, as Tardiveau had left the country for New Orleans. The new prothonotary was William Arundel, a trader of many years residence in Cahokia.<sup>5</sup> For the first time since Clark set up his courts in 1778, the agency for civil government in the Illinois was composed of a preponderance of Americans.

Under the laws of 1795, an orphans' court was established to take care of probate business. The extant record for this court begins in 1798, the first six pages of the volume having been torn out, but the index shows that sessions were held from 1796.<sup>6</sup> The records show William St. Clair to have presided as judge of probate, assisted by any three of the justices from the other courts. The business transacted is all probate.

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1. "Official Records, 1795," St. Clair Papers, II, p. 345n.
  2. See map in Counties of Illinois, p. 19.
  3. For a good discussion of what is known of the proceedings of the courts of that period, see May Allinson, "Government of Illinois 1790-1799" in Illinois State Historical Library Publication, No. 12 (Springfield, 1908).
  4. See *supra*, p. 43.
  5. May Allinson, *op. cit.*, p. 290.
  6. See entry 223, this Inventory, p. 211.

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There appears also, after 1795, a court of commissioners and assessors, which took over some of the administrative detail of the court of quarter sessions. It regulated the assessment of property and levying of taxes, the payment of salaries, the settlement of debts against the county, and the determination of the value of peltries accepted in payment of taxes. When St. Clair County became a part of the Indiana Territory, the court continued to function, but only as a commissioners' court.<sup>1</sup> The members of the court were Joseph Kinney and Jean Francois as commissioners, and Michael Squires, John Griffin, and Nicholas Jarrot, assessors; the clerk was Isaac Darneille, a lawyer of Cahokia.

In 1798, the first election for a member of the legislature was held in St. Clair County. In that year the Northwest Territory had, on the basis of having the requisite five thousand white male inhabitants, become a territory of the second grade, entitled to its own general assembly. Governor St. Clair called an election for the members of the lower house. Shadrach Bond the elder was elected from St. Clair County; John Edgar represented Randolph.

The arrangement under the second grade of territorial government was highly unsatisfactory. The Illinois counties must share in the expenses of a territorial government from which their remote location prevented them from benefitting. This was true also of Indiana. Accordingly, the people of the western portion of the Territory petitioned Congress for a division.

### Indiana Territory

On May 7, 1800, Congress approved an act creating Indiana Territory, embracing the region between the Ohio River and the Canadian border, west of a line beginning opposite the mouth of the Kentucky River.<sup>2</sup> The capital of the territory was Vincennes, and its governor, William Henry Harrison. This, of course, threw the Illinois back into the first grade of territorial government, and deprived the region of representation in Congress until 1805.<sup>3</sup>

The inhabitants of the Illinois were as little pleased with their government under Indiana as they had been under the Northwest Territory. In 1801 a petition circulated through St. Clair and Randolph counties for a return to the second grade of government, received the signatures of "about nine tenths of the inhabitants." It was hoped that the people of Vincennes would join the movement.<sup>4</sup> But while action on the petition

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1. Allinson, "Government of Illinois 1790-1799," p. 292.

2. Alvord, The Illinois Country, p. 407.

3. Laws of Northwest Territory, Law Series, I, 184, 185.

4. "John Edgar to Governor St. Clair, April 11, 1801" in Smith, St. Clair Papers, p. 533, 534.

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was pending, the disparity between the populations of the eastern and the western sections of the Territory was developing to the point of contention. The people of the Illinois felt that Indiana had all the advantages. Governor Harrison had, like Governor St. Clair, almost dictatorial power in his territory, and he was accused of partisanship toward his Indiana friends in the use of it. The dissatisfaction reached such a height by 1803, that a petition was sent to Congress asking for annexation to the new Louisiana Territory about to be organized.<sup>1</sup> Instead, Louisiana was added for a time to Governor Harrison's jurisdiction. The bitterness in Illinois increased. True to its heritage of strife, Randolph County was the most virulent in its opposition to Harrison. Most of the complaints and petitions originated from a party led by John Edgar and two other Kaskaskians, Robert and William Morrison. They had some adherents in St. Clair County, but the leaders there particularly the two Shadrach Bonds, elder and younger, supported the governor. In 1804 occurred a hasty election on the question of a return to second grade of territorial government. The polls were ill-attended in the Illinois counties, and the returns from one Indiana county came in too late to be counted.<sup>2</sup> The result of the election was the return to a second grade territory - the thing for which the citizens of Illinois had hoped and petitioned three years before, and which under their present circumstances they soon found undesirable. The first session of the new territorial legislature was held at Vincennes; to it were elected Shadrach Bond the younger and William Biggs from St. Clair County, and Dr. George Fisher of Kaskaskia from Randolph, all of the governor's party. Attendance upon one session was sufficient to prove the "ruinous inconvenience" of travelling the one hundred and eighty miles to Vincennes "through a dreary and inhospitable wilderness, uninhabited, and which, during one part of the year can scarcely afford water sufficient to sustain nature, and that of the most indifferent quality, besides presenting other hardships, equally severe, while in another, it is in part under water, and in places to the extent of some miles, by which the road is rendered almost impassable, and the traveller is not only subjected to the greatest difficulties, but his life placed in the most imminent danger."<sup>3</sup>

There was a practice at this time of removing minor suits from the county courts to the general court which met at Vincennes; the obstacles of attending court at that distance are evident, yet the general court issued attachments for contempt in case of nonattendance. These grievances,

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1. "Annals of Congress," 8th Cong. 1st Sess., p. 489, 1659, 1660, as referred to in Boggess, Settlement of Illinois, p. 85.
  2. Memorial of Sundry Inhabitants of the Counties of Randolph and St. Clair in the Indiana Territory, January 17, 1806 (Washington: A. and G. Way, Printers, 1806), p. 6,7.
  3. *Ibid.*, p. 4.



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and the unsatisfactory method of the election for second grade government were made the subject of a memorial to Congress in 1806, asking for a division of the territory. It was argued that division, resulting in autonomous government for the Illinois country, would check the fever of emigration to the west bank of the river and enhance the value of public lands in Illinois. The petition also asked that the section of the Northwest Ordinance forbidding the introduction of slaves be modified "to admit of slavery, either unconditional, or under such restrictions or limitations as your honorable bodies may dispose."<sup>1</sup> Although this petition emanated from the Edgar faction opposing Harrison, the soundness of its arguments appealed to members of both parties, and it was signed by about 350 men of the two counties. Among them was Shadrach Bond senior, but the signatures of Bond junior, of Biggs, and Dr. Fisher do not appear.<sup>2</sup>

At about the time this petition was received in Congress, another was sent by the Indiana legislature showing cause why the territory remain intact. For the next two years petitions and counter-petitions on the division descended upon Congress.<sup>3</sup> The factionalism in St. Clair and Randolph counties had waxed as bitter as in the days of Winston, Bentley, and Dodge. The main issues were ostensibly slavery and the division of the territory, but the real bone of contention was William Henry Harrison. Local interests, especially the settlement of land titles, became involved. Hot arguments and vituperant speeches were the order on both sides. By the end of 1808 the Harrison faction had so far gained the ascendancy as to aid in securing the election of a territorial representative to Congress who would support the division.<sup>4</sup> After considering the petitions, Congress, on the ninth of February, 1809, approved an act setting off the western portion of Indiana as the Territory of Illinois. The line of division was to run due north from Vincennes to the Canadian border.<sup>5</sup> Kaskaskia was named as the capital, and Ninian Edwards of Kentucky was appointed governor.

The autonomous government for Illinois, so ardently desired and so strenuously worked for, was now an accomplished fact. But in the struggle between the local factions a tragedy occurred which forms a blot on the opening page of the history of Illinois Territory. In the heat of argument, Shadrach Bond the younger, of St. Clair County, and Rice Jones,<sup>6</sup> of

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1. Memorial of Sundry Inhabitants of the Counties of Randolph and St. Clair, p. 4.
  2. Ibid., p. 8-12.
  3. Bogges, Settlement of Illinois, p. 87ff.
  4. Alvord, The Illinois Country, p. 424, 425.
  5. Annals of Congress, 10th Cong., 2nd Sess., p. 971-73, 1093; U.S.S. at Large, II, 514-16.
  6. The son of John Rice Jones who had settled in Kaskaskia about the time of St. Clair's coming to the Territory.

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Randolph County, became involved in a duel. Neither was injured at the time, but Bond's second, still consumed with anger, pursued Jones and shot him down in the streets of Kaskaskia. The murder was attributed by Rice Jone's friends to the underhand workings of Michael Jones, a land commissioner appointed to settle the long-disputed titles in the Illinois, who made himself highly unpopular by an investigation for fraudulent speculations. A series of trials was held in which the commissioner was finally exonerated; but the question of land titles in St. Clair and Randolph counties, always a troublesome one, was thrown into worse confusion by becoming involved in the political warfare that marked the ending of the old Illinois Country, and the beginning of Illinois Territory.<sup>1</sup>

### Illinois Territory

The face of the country had changed since Governor St. Clair had brought in the first territorial government nineteen years before. Now no longer was the population a preponderantly foreign-speaking one concentrated in the French villages along the Mississippi. With a few exceptions, the French gentry had moved away from Illinois, leaving in the villages only the habitants, the illiterate lower class who, beaten down by the hardships they had not the strength to combat, were living in poverty and wretchedness.<sup>2</sup> A few prosperous Frenchmen had come into the country in recent years who were able to throw themselves into the changing life of the time, and became influential in the affairs of the county and the state. Among these were Nicholas Jarrot and Jean Dumoulin (who was Swiss rather than French) of Cahokia, and Jean Francois Perrey of Prairie du Pont.<sup>3</sup>

But the villages, particularly Cahokia with the seat of justice established there, were becoming more American. At the same time, some of the French were spreading out into other quarters; the French Village several miles up Cahokia Creek, and the Quentine or Canteen Village were established about 1805.<sup>4</sup> The villages of Grand Ruisseau, Bellefontaine, and New Design had received fresh groups of settlers. The Turkey Hill Settlement, one of the first beyond the bluffs, had been made about 1797 by the family of William Scott, and in a few years had a population

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1. Alvord, The Illinois Country, p. 426,427.

2. This is Mr. Alvord's statement based on the writings of various travellers in the region. The one quotation he makes (op. cit., p. 408) is erroneously cited. Governor Reynolds, who lived among the French at both Kaskaskia and Cahokia between 1800 and 1815, does not paint so dark a picture (My Own Times, p. 37-39,91; Pioneer History, 1st ed., p. 48ff).

3. Alvord, op. cit., p. 426,427.

4. Reynolds, My Own Times, p. 48.

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of twenty;<sup>1</sup> L' Aigle, or Eagle, the southernmost village of the county had ten times that many. Settlements containing from three to a dozen families each were appearing on the uplands - Ridge Prairie, Goshen, and as far east as Silver Creek and the Kaskaskia River; shortly after 1800, George Blair settled on the land that sixteen years later became the site of Belleville. A considerable number of people had pushed north into the section that is now Madison County.<sup>2</sup>

In 1800 there were approximately 1,250 people living in the county, most of them French. The census of 1810 shows 5,007;<sup>3</sup> the increase was almost entirely American, if we can accept Reynolds' statement that the French population for that period remained virtually stationary.<sup>4</sup> As the country filled up, the frontier of the county pushed away from the American Bottoms into the "wilderness" toward the Wabash and the Illinois rivers.

The early arrivals were still largely from the South - Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, the Carolinas. A good many of them, like the Reynolds family, were pushing to new frontiers for the second or third time, having grown restless as civilization overtook the older communities.<sup>5</sup>

The most popular route was by water, down the Ohio and up the Mississippi; to avoid going around the point between the two rivers, some of those bound for the St. Clair region disembarked at Fort Massac and continued overland by the old Fort Massac trace. The way by water was somewhat costly for families with small means; these came by land all the way, crossing the large streams by ferry and fording or rafting the smaller ones. The Wilderness Road was the chief thoroughfare; crossing Kentucky from the Cumberland Gap, it met the Ohio at the Falls, and extended to Vincennes, and later to St. Louis.<sup>6</sup>

When a number of families together decided to form a settlement, they built their log cabins within easy reach of each other - not, as did the French villagers, for sociability's sake, but for protection against the Indians. Some, as in the case of Grand Ruisseau, were surrounded by a stockade. When the troubles preceding the War of 1812 broke out, it became customary to erect a blockhouse or fort at a central point where the settlers could gather in time of raid.

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1. Flagg, "The Far West" in Thwaites, Early Western Travels, XXVII, 112.
  2. Reynolds, My Own Times, p. 44-48, 61-64.
  3. History of St. Clair County (Philadelphia: Brink & McDonough Co., 1881), p. 73.
  4. Reynolds, op. cit., p. 45.
  5. Ibid., p. 3, 13.
  6. Boggess, The Settlement of Illinois, p. 92ff, For a description of a river journey to Illinois, see Smith, St. Clair Papers, II, 164; the journey by land is described by Reynolds, op. cit., p. 13-16.



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During the territorial period, 1809 to 1818, the settlement of St. Clair County - or indeed of Illinois - was not as rapid as would be expected of so fertile and attractive a region. Although the area of population was spreading, many of the new outposts were established by people already in the county, who were changing their locations.<sup>1</sup> In 1809, when the northern boundary of the county was still the Canada line, St. Clair contained approximately five thousand souls. In 1818, after the county had been reduced to its present boundaries (with the exception of Prairie du Long precinct which was later attached to Monroe<sup>2</sup>) by the creation of Madison County to the north, Washington to the east, and Monroe to the southwest,<sup>3</sup> the population was 5,039.<sup>4</sup> The trend of expansion was northward and eastward in what became Madison and Washington counties; enough newcomers settled within the 725 square miles left to St. Clair, however, to make the density of population about seven to the square mile, the greatest of any of the counties.<sup>5</sup>

A number of factors contributed to the lack of immigration - the length and difficulty of the journey, either by land or by water, the danger from the hostile Indians, especially during the War of 1812, the ease with which good land might be secured in the less distant states, the unsettled status of slavery in Illinois, and the confusion - thrice confounded - of the land-title situation. Of these, the two latter were probably most significant. Slavery, as we have seen, had existed in the Illinois for nearly a

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1. Reynolds, My Own Times, p. 45.

2. Solon J. Buck, Illinois in 1918 (Chicago: A. C. McClurg, 1918), p. 79.

3. After the extension of the St. Clair boundary to the Canadian border by Governor Harrison in 1801, the boundary changes were briefly as follows: in 1803 the southern boundary was pushed up to a diagonal line beginning on the Mississippi four miles below the old boundary and extending to a line running north from Cave-in-Rock on the Ohio; in 1809 the west line of both St. Clair and Randolph counties was made coincident with the territorial line dividing Illinois and Indiana; in 1812, Governor Edwards created Madison County out of all the sections of St. Clair lying north of the present boundary between the two counties, leaving St. Clair a spearhead between Randolph and Madison; the next year the territorial legislature pushed the diagonal southern boundary down to the position it has at present, except that it extended to the Mississippi; in 1816, Monroe County was carved out of the western portions of Randolph and St. Clair; and finally, in 1818, an act was passed creating Washington County out of the eastern one half of St. Clair. The little precinct of Prairie du Long was given to Monroe piecemeal by acts of the state legislature and private laws in 1825 and 1827. For maps showing these changes, and complete extracts from the acts declaring them, see Counties of Illinois, p. 16-37, 46, 47, 50, 51; an even more detailed and exact discussion is given in William Barge, The Genesis of St. Clair County, MSS. in the Chicago Historical Society.

4. Buck, op. cit., p. 79.

5. Ibid.

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century, but had not become an issue until the Ordinance of 1787 prohibited the importation of slaves into the Northwest Territory. Even the decision that slaves already held were not affected by the prohibition, and the provision of William Henry Harrison in 1803 for the indenture of servants<sup>1</sup> did not settle the question. Opposition to slavery was one of the factors in the political warfare wracking St. Clair and Randolph counties at the beginning of the Territory of Illinois. A goodly number of immigrants from the southern states, who were not dismayed by absence of roads or danger from Indians, passed through Illinois and crossed to Missouri where slavery had no restrictions.

An even greater deterrent to settlement was the land question. Since Governor St. Clair made his initial effort to unravel the tangled skein of titles, the problem had been uppermost in the Territory. During the process of extinguishing the Indian titles by a series of treaties from 1795 to 1804<sup>2</sup> no public land was sold in the Northwest Territory west of the mouth of the Kentucky River. Sales were opened in that year, and Illinois lands were to be included after private claims had been settled.<sup>3</sup> It was the settlement of these claims that was the bewildering and seemingly insoluble problem. There were titles from grants dating back to the Company of the Indies and Louis XIV, and grants from the British commandants; superimposed on these were the grants of Clark, Todd, and the courts of Cahokia and Kaskaskia; there were titles derived from cessions to land companies and individual speculators. Surveys were inaccurate, claims overlapped, titles that were valid at one time had no legal standing at another. The French were fairly secure in their commons and common fields, but the American settler was no more than a squatter on his land, in danger at any time that public sale might be opened, of being dispossessed of his acres and of losing his improvements. Speculation ran rife. Claims to thousand of acres were bought up by speculators, scrupulous and otherwise, and resold; thus the question of ownership, already complicated, became still more involved. Among the men of St. Clair who laid the foundations of their fortunes in the land game was John Reynolds, later to become governor of the state.<sup>4</sup> However, in St. Clair County no single individual came into possession of such enormous tracts as were affirmed in Randolph County to John Edgar and William Morrison; these two men together held upwards of sixty thousand acres.<sup>5</sup>

In 1804 Congress authorized a commission to settle the Illinois claims. The commissioners were five years investigating the welter of claims. No sooner was the report of their decisions confirmed by Congress, in 1810,<sup>6</sup> than a long list of disputed claims was presented, and

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1. Laws of Indiana Territory 1803 (Frankfort, Ky.; William Hunter), p. 42.
  2. See *supra*, p. 13,14.
  3. Boggess, Settlement of Illinois, p. 79ff.
  4. My Own Times. Reynolds makes the statement that in all his land deals he took precaution to see that the title was clear, and never had a claim rejected, p. 110.
  5. Boggess, *op. cit.*, p. 101.
  6. U.S.S. at Large, II, 607.



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final settlement was delayed while a new committee revised the earlier confirmations.<sup>1</sup> It was not till 1814 that the private claims were sufficiently settled to allow public lands to be opened for sale, although land offices had been authorized in Kaskaskia and Shawneetown the year before. Between October 1, 1815, and September 30, 1816, less than thirteen thousand acres had been sold in the district of Kaskaskia, to which St. Clair County belonged.

At the beginning of the territorial period, the affairs of the county were being administered by a court of common pleas created by an act of the Indiana territorial legislature in 1805, effective January 1, 1806.<sup>2</sup> It consisted of three justices, and was vested with the powers of the old courts of quarter sessions, common pleas, and the orphans' court. The act provided that the court in St. Clair County should meet on the third Monday of March, July, and November every year, the judges to "receive two hundred and fifty cents for every day they shall sit to be paid out of the county levy."<sup>3</sup> Consolidation of the administrative, and with some limitations, the judicial functions of the county into one court had the salutary effect of expediting the business of a county of unwieldy proportions. By that time the county had been divided into five townships, Cahokia, Turkey Hill, L'Aigle also known as Eagle, Fountain, and Goshen.<sup>4</sup> Along with probate business, the court appointed supervisors to lay out roads, appointed constables, arranged for the care of the unfortunate in the county, the levying and collecting of taxes, and attended to all other affairs incident to local government.<sup>5</sup> The members of this court were Jean Francois Perrey, Thomas Kirkpatrick, and Shadrach Bond. Bond the elder served until 1808, when he resigned and his nephew, Shadrach Bond the younger, was sworn in as presiding judge.<sup>6</sup> They remained in office until the division of the Territory, when, although the court was continued, a new set of justices sat on the bench. They were William Whiteside, Samuel Kennedy, and Nicholas Jarrot.<sup>7</sup> With the exception of Jarrot, who was one of the last Frenchmen to serve on an administrative body in St. Clair County,<sup>8</sup> these were men new in county affairs. From this time forth, on the pages of the record are written more and more the names of men who had become leaders of communities flung far out into the county, some of them, men who were

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1. U.S.S. at Large, II, 677.

2. Laws of the Indiana Territory 1805 (Vincennes, Elihu Stout), p. 115.

3. Ibid.

4. County Record, v. 1, p. 40.

5. Ibid., p. 31,35,36,40.

6. Ibid., p. 43.

7. Ibid., p. 50.

8. Jean Francois Perrey was appointed to the court of common pleas in 1811; Joseph Trottier, son of Francois Trottier who was commandant of Cahokia at the arrival of Governor St. Clair, served on the county commissioners' court from 1820 to 1822. See Roster of County Officers, this Inventory, p. 111,112.



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to wield their influence in the infant state of Illinois. No longer were the leaders of the county concentrated in Cahokia and the American villages of the Bottoms.

One of the first acts of the court was to confirm the boundaries of the townships "as heretofore before the Division of this Territory."<sup>1</sup>

In March, 1812, Governor Edwards issued a proclamation calling for an election on the question of entering the second grade of territorial government.<sup>2</sup> The vote was favorable, and in September of the same year he called for the election of a delegate to Congress and of members of the territorial council and the house of representatives. St. Clair County was to have two representatives, each of the other four counties one.<sup>3</sup> At the election in the courthouse at Cahokia, Shadrach Bond was chosen delegate to Congress, William Biggs to the Legislative Council, and the Reverend Joshua Oglesby and Jacob Short to the House. John Thomas, of St. Clair, was secretary of the Council.<sup>4</sup>

An echo of the old factionalism was carried to the first General Assembly, when, just as Biggs took his seat as president of the body, his defeated opponent, Thomas Todd, appeared, contesting the election. The first five days of the session were consumed in an investigation of the election records in order to settle Mr. Biggs in his place.<sup>5</sup>

During the years between 1812 and 1815 the chief concern of the people of the county was the War of 1812. As early as 1809, Nicholas Jarrot had made known under oath that British agents were fomenting trouble with the Indians and supplying them with ammunition.<sup>6</sup> News of the murder of families was coming from all sides of the frontier. In April, 1812, Governor Edwards held a council at Cahokia with representatives of the Kickapoo, Pottawatomi, Ottawa, and Chippewa tribes. He told them he was aware that the British "had bad birds flying" among them to stir them up to war, and declared flatly that alliance with the British would do them no good, because the British could not prevail against the United States; that the Americans had no intention of seizing their lands, or even of buying them unless the Indians wished to sell.<sup>7</sup> The spokesman for the Indians was Gomo, chief of the Pottawatomis. In his reply

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1. County Record, v. 1, p. 50A. There were now six townships, Wood River having been created out of a part of Goshen in 1818. Ibid., p. 42.
  2. The Territorial Records of Illinois, ed. Edmund Janes James, Publications of the Illinois State Library, No. III (Springfield, 1901), p. 23.
  3. Ibid., p. 26, 27. Governor Edwards had by this time created the counties of Madison, Gallatin, and Johnson.
  4. Ibid., p. 62, 86.
  5. Ibid., p. 62-65.
  6. History of St. Clair County (Brink and McDonough), p. 125.
  7. Ninian Wirt Edwards, History of Illinois from 1778 to 1833; and Life and Times of Ninian Edwards (Springfield; Illinois State Journal, 1870), p. 56-60.

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he promised "whatever the English may do, you may rest assured none of us will join them."<sup>1</sup> But the words of the prophet, brother of Tecumseh, then powerful among the Indiana tribes, and the lavish presents of the British were a stronger influence than Governor Edwards. The hostilities increased. For protection a chain of about twenty blockhouses was erected at the outer edge of the settlements from the Illinois River to the Ohio. In St. Clair County was a fort in the Ridge Prairie district to the north, another called Fort Chambers on the edge of Looking Glass Prairie southeast of Lebanon, one farther south in what is now Mascoutah Township and one at Nathaniel Hill's on Doza Creek toward the Randolph County line.<sup>2</sup> The base of supplies was at Camp Russell, a few miles from the present site of Edwardsville, in Madison County. Practically all the young men in the county were enlisted either in the territorial militia, of which Shadrach Bond was lieutenant colonel,<sup>3</sup> or in one of the four companies of rangers authorized by Congress to be organized in the territory. Three of these companies were commanded by St. Clair men, Jacob Short, who had resigned his seat in the legislature, and Samuel and William B. Whiteside.<sup>4</sup> The troops ranged the frontier, "to a great distance - principally between the Illinois and Kaskaskia rivers, and sometimes between the Kaskaskia and the Wabash - always keeping their line of march never less than one and sometimes three days journey outside of all the settlements."<sup>5</sup>

In spite of the measures taken for defense, the settlers were thrown into terror. Many abandoned their farms and drew into the villages. Cahokia was full of people the first winter of the war, and according to Governor Reynolds, gay and lively in spite of danger.<sup>6</sup> Many others left the country entirely, so that Governor Edwards, in February, 1812, wrote to the Secretary of War, "The alarms and apprehensions of the people are becoming so universal, that I should not be surprised if we should, in three months, lose more than one half our present population. In places, in my opinion, entirely out of danger, many are removing. In other parts, large settlements are about to be totally deserted."<sup>7</sup> By several vigorous campaigns the Indians were pushed back. By the end of 1814 the war closed in Illinois and the terrorism died down.

With the establishment of peace and the opening of public lands to sale, settlers began once more to pour into the county. Old settlements were re-established and new ones made. Roads, which had begun to be established by

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1. Edwards, History of Illinois from 1778 to 1833, p. 63.
  2. Reynolds, Pioneer History (2nd ed.), p. 405; History of St. Clair County (Brink and McDonough), p. 125, 126.
  3. James, Territorial Records, p. 4.
  4. Reynolds, My Own Times, p. 84.
  5. Edwards, Life and Times of Ninian Edwards, p. 329.
  6. My Own Times, p. 91.
  7. Edwards, Life and Times of Ninian Edwards, p. 301.

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county authority in 1796<sup>1</sup> were pushing out to the northern, eastern, and southern limits of the county. It is not surprising that the feeling arose that the seat of justice for the county should be in a spot more accessible than Cahokia, on the farthest western boundary. In December, 1813, the territorial legislature had passed an act appointing commissioners to select places for holding court in St. Clair, Madison, and Johnson counties.<sup>2</sup> At a special session of the court of common pleas in the same month, the commissioners, John Hays, James Lemen, Isaac Enochs, William Scott Jr., Nathan Chambers, Jacob Short, and Caldwell Cairns were notified to meet at the house of Colonel Whiteside and make their decisions, returning their findings at the February, 1814 term of court.<sup>3</sup> It was not, however, until April 14, 1814 that the commission made its return. In a lengthy report accounting for the elapsed time, the members declared that they had located the seat of justice about fifteen miles east of Cahokia, on land belonging to George Blair who "proposed and agreed to give a donation for the use and benefit of said county of St. Clair a public square containing one acre of land for the purpose of erecting public buildings thereon and to relinquish twenty-five acres of land adjoining next around the Public Square which he also proposes to give every fifth lot of said twenty five acres exclusive of the streets as a donation for the use and benefit of said County."<sup>4</sup> Blair promised to have the necessary conveyances ready so that the June term of the court could be held at the new county seat, which he named Belleville. Advertisements were promptly posted on the door of the old Cahokia courthouse for bids on a new courthouse and jail.<sup>5</sup>

The first meeting of the court at Belleville was held August 8, 1814, the tables and benches from the old courthouse having been hauled to Blair's place.<sup>6</sup> Prisoners continued to be housed in the old jail at Cahokia, because the jail built on the new location was not sufficiently strong to hold them.<sup>7</sup>

This meeting was to be the last regular session of the court of common pleas, for in December, 1814, the territorial legislature approved an act supplanting this court by a county court consisting of three judges appointed by the governor.<sup>8</sup> Governor Edwards reappointed the men who had been sitting on the court of common pleas, William Biggs, John Thomas, and

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1. History of St. Clair County (Brink and McDonough), p. 87.
  2. County Record v. 1, p. 103.
  3. Ibid., p. 93.
  4. Ibid., p. 104.
  5. Ibid.
  6. Ibid., p. 113.
  7. Ibid., p. 118, 131.
  8. Laws of The Territory of Illinois, ed. Nathaniel Pope (Kaskaskia: Matthew Duncan, July 4, 1815), II, 345, 349.



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Caldwell Cairns.<sup>1</sup> The new court was vested with the same administrative powers as the court of common pleas, but the jurisdiction in the trial of causes, both civil and criminal, was removed.<sup>2</sup> At its May term in 1816, the court ordered the division of the county into nine townships, Cahokia, Ogle, Turkey Hill, Clinton Hill, Spring, Scott, Chamber, Silver Creek, and Sugar Creek.<sup>3</sup>

The county court functioned until 1818, when, on January 12, the territorial legislature established the justices' court composed of the justices of the peace of a county, any three of whom were to constitute a quorum.<sup>4</sup> The justices' court was to have the same powers and possess the same jurisdiction which the county court possessed, increasing, however, its administrative duties specifically in relation to . . . "public roads and highways, in cases relating to the county taxes, in all cases relating to elections, and all other cases relating to the concerns of the county."<sup>5</sup> Thus, with every change in the system of government in the counties, more responsibilities and a greater degree of self-government were assumed by the civil divisions within the Territory. This court, composed in St. Clair County of John Hay, Peter Mitchell, Henry Walker, Joseph Ogle Jr., Thomas Cohen, Abel Fike, Thomas Gillham, Edmund P. Wilderman, and Abraham Badgley,<sup>6</sup> remained in charge of the affairs of the county until 1819 when the system of county administration provided in the constitution of the State of Illinois became effective.

## Civil and Political Development after Statehood

### Administrative Changes

The Constitution of 1818 provided for the administration of county affairs to be in the hands of a county commissioners' court composed of three members.<sup>7</sup> It was left to the General Assembly to state the duties and the terms of office of the commissioners. In 1819 the court was declared to have "jurisdiction in all cases where the matter or thing brought before the court, relates to the public concerns of the county, collectively, and all the county business."<sup>8</sup>

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1. James, Territorial Records, p. 34; County Record, v. 1, p. 118, 119.
  2. James, op. cit., p. 35.
  3. County Record, v. 1, p. 159-161; Bateman, Selby, and Wilderman, Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of St. Clair County, II, 691.
  4. Laws of Illinois Territory 1818, p. 90.
  5. Ibid., p. 91, 92.
  6. County Record, v. 2, p. 71, 74. The name of Wilderman appears also as Wilkinson, ibid., p. 79-81, and in the Secretary of State's records of county officers (see Roster of County Officers, this Inventory, p. 111, 112).
  7. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4.
  8. L. 1819, p. 175.

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"On the seventh day of June of the year of Our Lord Eighteen hundred and nineteen being a day fixed upon by the said statute for holding a county commissioners' court for the said county of St. Clair, Cornelius Gooding, Edmund P. Wilkinson and Clayton Tiffin having produced their certificate of election as county commissioners for the said county of St. Clair . . . took their seats accordingly, thereupon the said commissioners appointed John Hay clerk of the court . . . the said John Hay produced here to the said court his bond for the faithful discharge of his office as clerk. Present: Cornelius Gooding, Edmund P. Wilkinson, Clayton Tiffin, commissioners, John Hay, Clerk, Wm. A. Beaird, Sheriff."<sup>1</sup> By 1821 the legislature had set the term of office and thereafter the commissioners were elected at regular intervals.<sup>2</sup>

The county commissioners' court continued as the administrative body until 1849, when in accordance with a provision of the new Constitution of 1848,<sup>3</sup> it was abolished by an act of the legislature affecting all counties in the state. That act provided for a county court with dual administrative and judicial functions; the county judge alone constituted the judicial court; the judge sitting with two associate justices composed the court of administration which possessed all jurisdiction and power formerly conferred on the county commissioners' court.<sup>4</sup> The first court in St. Clair County was composed of Nathaniel Niles, judge, Abraham Badgley and S. M. Thrift, associate justices.<sup>5</sup>

At the same time that the Constitution of 1848 lodged the administration of county affairs in the county court, it provided the counties with an alternative form of government, township organization.<sup>6</sup> St. Clair County, however, did not avail itself of the more diffuse type of organization until after the Constitution of 1870 had removed administrative jurisdiction from the county court, and placed on the counties the obligation of choice between the township form and government by a board of county commissioners of three members.<sup>7</sup> On June 16, 1871,

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1. County Record, v. 2, p. 81. In the Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of St. Clair County, p. 688, 689, as well as the History of St. Clair County, published by Brink, McDonough & Co., p. 76, statements are made that this court was appointed by the governor on June 17, 1819; in the county record, however, it is stated clearly that the court was elected on that date. Also, in the above histories the name of one of the commissioners, Clayton Tiffin, is spelled Tippon.
  2. For a complete discussion of the operation of this court, see Chapter I, County Board, this Inventory, p. 145.
  3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19.
  4. L.1849, p. 65, 66.
  5. Bateman, Selby, and Wilderman, Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of St. Clair County, II, 688, 689.
  6. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6.
  7. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 5, 6.

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Herman G. Weber presented to the county court a petition to submit to the voters of St. Clair County at the next November election the question of township organization.<sup>1</sup> The township plan failed on that occasion, and the county court continued to function in its administrative capacity while laws being enacted to perfect county organization under the board of county commissioners. At an election held November 4, 1873, Joseph Voile, Augustus Chenot, and Frederick C. Horn became county commissioners, and in the following January, Charles L. Emerich was elected to fill a vacancy.<sup>2</sup> But it was not until February 2, 1874, that the board of commissioners was formally organized according to law,<sup>3</sup> by the election of one of its members, Charles Emerich, to preside as chairman.<sup>4</sup>

The question of a change to township government remained a live issue in the county for a decade. At an election in November, 1879, the plan was defeated by 2,689 votes.<sup>5</sup> Finally, at an election in November, 1883, township government was adopted by a vote of 2,863 to 2,411.<sup>6</sup> At the December term following the election, the board appointed Philip H. Postel Sr., Henry Barthel, and Joseph P. Messick commissioners to divide the county into townships.<sup>7</sup> The commissioners brought in their report the following February, having divided the county into nineteen townships: Mascoutah, Lebanon, Shiloh Valley, O'Fallon, Belleville, Caseyville, Stookey, Centerville Station, Englemann, Fayetteville, Marissa, Freeburg, New Athens, Lenzburg, Smithton, Prairie du Long, Millstadt, Sugar Loaf, and East St. Louis. Three townships have since been added, Canteen, St. Clair, and Stites, making a total of twenty-two townships for the county.<sup>8</sup>

Despite the narrow margin of the election, the many arguments brought forth for the retention of the county commission plan, and the enthusiasm of the counties that retained that plan, St. Clair County, having once chosen the alternative of a board of township supervisors, has remained under that type of government.

Since the days when the justices' court sat in a room of Etienne Pensonneau's tavern in Belleville awaiting the completion of the little brick courthouse, three courthouses have been built, outgrown, and replaced by buildings more adequate for the transaction of the expanding business of a county increasing in population, diversity of interests, and complexity of culture.<sup>9</sup>

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1. County Court Record, v. E, p. 163,164.

2. See Roster of County Officers, this Inventory, p. 113.

3. L.1873-74, p. 79.

4. County Court Record, v. E, p. 405.

5. Ibid., v. F, p. 530,531.

6. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. G, p. 355.

7. Ibid., p. 356.

8. Ibid., p. 379; Bateman, Selby, and Wilderman, Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of St. Clair County, II, 691.

9. For a detailed discussion of the various courthouses, see Housing, Care, and Accessibility of Records, this Inventory, Chapter II, p. 125.



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### St. Clair County and Early Illinois

St. Clair County sent three delegates to the convention that drafted the constitution for the new state. Two of them, John Messenger and James Lemen Jr., had served on the administrative courts of the county; Messenger had been the first county treasurer,<sup>1</sup> and Lemen had been a member of the territorial legislature from 1814 to 1816.<sup>2</sup> The third, Jesse B. Thomas, who acted as president of the convention, had been one of the United States judges appointed to the territorial court of Illinois, and when the Territory was divided into three judicial districts in 1817, had presided over the first district, to which St. Clair County was attached. At the time of admission, Thomas was the leader of one of the two factions dominating territorial politics; for, as Illinois had entered her existence as a territory embroiled in factional warfare, so she entered statehood. As in the earlier struggle, the political issues involved were obscured in the personal loyalties to the leaders. The man leading the second faction was Governor Ninian Edwards, at the time a resident of Madison County, but possessed of large business and property interests in St. Clair, and later to become a citizen of Belleville.<sup>3</sup> In the first state election, both Thomas and Edwards secured seats in the United States Senate, where their bitter rivalry continued. Shadrach Bond, who belonged to neither faction, became the first governor.<sup>4</sup> John Reynolds was made a judge of the Supreme Court. In the new State Senate William C. Kinney represented St. Clair County, and Risdon Moore and John Thomas were members of the House of Representatives.<sup>5</sup>

The constitution under which Illinois was admitted contained an article prohibiting slavery "hereafter (to) be introduced in this State," in language as ambiguous as that of the Ordinance of 1787 under which the Illinois slave-owners had retained their property.<sup>6</sup> The only opposition in Congress to the admission of the state was occasioned by the doubt as to whether it was to be counted among the free or among the slave states. The question made little stir in Congress - overshadowed by the impending struggle over the admission of Missouri - and was quickly settled. But in Illinois the slavery issue began immediately to loom large as a focus of political dissensions, and St. Clair was not least among the counties torn by the struggle.

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1. James, Territorial Records, p. 36.
  2. Bateman, Selby, and Wilderman, op. cit., p. 684.
  3. In 1829, when St. Clair County was in financial straits following the depression of the early 'twenties, Governor Edwards offered to advance \$1,500 with no interest, to help complete the courthouse then building. County Court Record, v. 3, p. 213.
  4. Pease, The Frontier State, p. 95.
  5. History of St. Clair County, Brink and McDonough, p. 71, 72, 79.
  6. Constitution of 1818, Art. VI.

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Few of the early settlers in the county had any objection to slavery as an institution. It was an accepted part of the social background for most of them coming as they did, from the southern states; they were accustomed to its existence in western Illinois from the days of the French regime. Most of the antislavery sentiment exhibited before statehood arose in recognition of the necessity for any territory seeking admission, or any newly fledged state, to declare itself on one side or the other of the question that was rapidly becoming the most absorbing issue in national politics. The position of Illinois was peculiar. Nominally a free state, it tolerated slavery already existent, and a system of indenture amounting to slavery was countenanced by the constitution;— but any benefit to be derived from the use of slave labor in future development of the country was precluded by the prohibition against the introduction of new slaves. There was a strong feeling that either the institution should be got rid of altogether or the restrictions should be removed. The antislavery cause had been strengthened by an infiltration of settlers from the northern states, whose background of Puritanism made them opposed to slavery. The entire Illinois delegation in Congress was ostensibly antislavery. Proslavery feeling was strong enough that in 1820 a resolution was introduced into the General Assembly to amend the constitution to admit slavery.<sup>2</sup> The issue in the election for governor in 1822 was openly that of slavery.

The successful candidate was Edward Coles, who had freed his slaves in a dramatic gesture on his way to Illinois. In his inaugural message he recommended that slavery be abolished in the state and the black laws repealed. Of the Senate committee to which the recommendations were referred, two members, including Risdon Moore of St. Clair, reported favorably, and one dissented. The House committee also dissented, and it was decided to bring the matter before the people in a vote for a new constitutional convention. It was in the fight over the proposed convention that the antagonism between the proslavery and antislavery parties reached heights of bitterness that were scarcely exceeded even in the hectic days immediately preceding the Civil War. Neighbor was set against neighbor, and in some places the people went armed and guarded their houses and places of business against incendiarism.

The attitude of Risdon Moore was fairly representative of St. Clair County.<sup>3</sup> The chief slaveowners in the county had always been the French.

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1. Constitution of 1818, Art. VI, sec. 2.
  2. Pease, *The Frontier State*, p. 73, 74.
  3. In the Assembly of 1823, the entire St. Clair delegation, William C. Kinney in the Senate, and Risdon Moore, Jacob Ogle, and James Trottier in the House, voted in favor of the resolution to submit the convention question to a vote of the people; but since this was not a vote in favor of holding the convention, it did not necessarily indicate the members' position in regard to slavery.

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Shadrach Bond and some of his associates had declared against slavery as early as the fight for the separation from Indiana Territory. In the neighborhood of Belleville was already the nucleus of that German population that was later to play a strong part in the development of the county. The Germans were solidly opposed to slavery. In the election for members of the General Assembly in which the convention question would be settled, the feeling ran high. The opponents of slavery in March, 1823, organized the "St. Clair County Society for the prevention of slavery in the state of Illinois." The county had no newspaper at that time, so the society took upon itself the task of "disseminating light and knowledge on the subject of Slavery, by cool and dispassionate reasoning, by circulating pamphlets, handbills, and other publications."<sup>1</sup> One of the leaders of the antislavery party was John Mason Peck, a Baptist minister who had settled at Rock Spring near Lebanon a year to two before. Tradition has it that Peck distributed anti-slavery pamphlets and broadsides along with Bibles on his journeys to the congregations in the county.<sup>2</sup> Indeed, the pulpit was one of the most effective foes of the conventionists. Both the Methodist and Baptist denominations were opposed to slavery, and both had large followings in St. Clair County. The conventionists were inclined to obscure their proslavery intentions among a number of other questions on which the constitution needed revision. The preachers had a forthright way of making the issue clearcut. As election time drew near, the anti-conventionists perfected their organization, calling a convention of delegates elected in each township, to nominate their candidates not only for legislative positions, but also for county offices. The result of the election was a triumph for the antislavery faction, 523 votes being cast against the convention, and 427 in its favor.<sup>3</sup>

A sufficient number of counties voted in the same direction so that the convention was not held, and Illinois never became a slave state. For the next decade or so, the slavery question was dormant. But in St. Clair County the antislavery sentiment was gradually strengthening. No such dramatic event occurred as the murder of Elijah Lovejoy in Madison County. But on two important cases brought before the state Supreme Court, St. Clair County men were instrumental in defining the position of Illinois. In the case of Sarah Borders, a woman of color, vs. Andrew Borders her master, in which the indentured woman was suing for her freedom, the attorneys for the slave were Lyman Trumbull and Gustave Koerner of Belleville. They argued that the Ordinance of 1787 was still binding upon the states carved from the Northwest Territory

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1. Edwardsville Spectator, April 12, 1823.
  2. Pease accepts this tradition, although he says he has been unable to substantiate it by direct evidence. The Frontier State, p. 81.
  3. Senate Journal, 1824, as quoted in Wm. H. Brown, Fergus Historical Series, no. 4 (Chicago: Fergus Printing Co., 1876), facing p. 30.



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and that state or territorial laws in conflict with it were therefore null.<sup>1</sup> Trumbull again appeared in behalf of a slave, in company with W. H. Underwood of Belleville, in the case of one Joseph, belonging to the Jarrot family of Cahokia. In this case the court held that the indenture of a slave - even a descendant of slaves legally held by the French under the old laws - was not valid under clauses of the Ordinance prohibiting slavery.<sup>2</sup>

The movement for complete abolition as opposed to the restriction of slavery to the states in which it was already legalized, was slower in gaining ground, because of a strong feeling that the abolitionists were fanatics and their agitations intensified the evils of a system not wholly evil. A dozen other counties preceded St. Clair in the organization of those later antislavery societies that leaned towards abolition only with the increasing entanglement of slavery with the issue of states' rights and finally of secession. The tendency among those inhabitants of the county who were of southern origin and ancestry was to look upon slavery as a natural institution, the Negro as born to servitude. A free Negro who was convicted in Belleville in 1857, of violation of the black law of 1853 prohibiting the settlement of any Negro in the state,<sup>3</sup> would have been sold at the door of the courthouse, had not Gustave Koerner interposed and paid the fine demanded by law.<sup>4</sup> The conviction that all people are born free was held largely by the German people, who by the early 'fifties, had become numerous and influential in the county. It was among them that the abolition movement had its strongest hold. Politically, the "nativists" favored Douglas above Lincoln - a few extremists even being followers of Jefferson Davis. The intense reactionaries became Copperheads or Knights of the Golden Circle, and secretly aided the cause of secession.<sup>5</sup> These, however, were in the minority; when war between the states was actually declared, differences for the most part were laid aside and violent abolitionists responded to the call for volunteers along with the partisans of the movement.

At the time of the admission of Illinois to the Union, most of the men outstanding in public affairs were to be found holding county offices. John Thomas and William Biggs of the territorial legislature, and Risdon Moore of the first state Senate had served on the administrative courts of St. Clair County; Jacob Ogle and James Trottier, members of the county commissioners' court in 1820, were in the House of Representatives in 1823; Shadrach Bond had been a judge of the court of common pleas for many years before he was elected governor. In the period following statehood,

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1. Borders vs. Borders, 5 Ill. 341.
  2. Jarrot vs. Jarrot, 7 Ill. 1.
  3. Public L. 1853, p. 57-60.
  4. Belleville Advocate, April 22, 1857.
  5. Fred J. Kern, "The First Two Counties of Illinois and Their People" in Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society, 1916, Publication 22 (Springfield: Illinois State Historical Library, 1917), p. 39.

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the importance of county office-holding as a political pursuit dwindled in proportion as the leading men in the sparsely settled counties turned directly to the larger - and more lucrative - game of state politics.<sup>1</sup>

This was the period in which the old territorial system of factional politics was breaking down under the weight of its own inadequacy, and the diverse political elements were coalescing into parties aligned along national issues. In the process many of the old leaders, including Ninian Edwards and his son-in-law, Daniel Pope Cook, went down, and men of the new order came forward in their places. One of the last election campaigns conducted on the old factional basis was the race for governor in 1829, between John Reynolds and William C. Kinney, both men of St. Clair County, where the campaign waxed hot. Both candidates were Jackson Democrats; their differences lay in their sympathies with the factions headed, one by Edwards and Pope, the other by Elias Kent Kane. Reynolds was elected. The day of election campaigns on the basis of personal loyalties and animosities was drawing to a chaotic close by the election of 1833 when Kinney was again a candidate, unsuccessfully opposing Joseph Duncan. The event that marked the final breakup of the factional system was the congressional race of 1834, when Reynolds ran against, and defeated Adam W. Snyder of Cahokia and Belleville.<sup>2</sup> From that time on the cleavage of politics in Illinois was more and more distinctly along the lines of national issues, and the politicians fell into the ranks of the Whig and Democrat parties. St. Clair County from the first was predominantly Democratic.

One of the chief determinants of the political cast of the county was the large German population which had settled there. Driven out of Germany by the economic depressions which followed the Napoleonic wars and the political revolutions of 1830 and 1848, thousands of Germans emigrated to America. Most of them were headed for Missouri, enticed by the glowing reports of that country sent back by an early comer, Gottfried Duden. Their aversion to slavery has already been noted. They preferred to settle on free soil, and their leaders, Gustave Koerner, Theodor Hilgard, John Scheel, George Bunsen, and George Englemann, chose Belleville as the center of their colony. Many of these colonists were educated men in their homeland - lawyers, physicians, and skilled craftsmen. Few of them were acquainted with farming, and their first inept attempts earned them the nickname of "Latin farmers," because they read Latin better than they raised corn. They built good houses and lined their walls with books; they planted orchards and flower gardens; and when their work was done they played the music of Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven, and sang the folksongs of the Fatherland. Life was harder on the Illinois prairie than in Germany; perforce they adopted some of the pioneer ways of their American neighbors. At the same time the standard of native culture was raised by the impact. The first public library in Belleville and one of the first in Illinois was started by the Germans in 1836; German newspapers were established; a music school, and one of the first kindergartens in the United States were organized at Belleville under German leadership.

The Germans under the tutelage of Koerner, who translated many laws as well as current works on political science, were quick to inform themselves

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1. Pease, The Frontier State, p. 37.

2. Ibid., p. 147-149.



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on the laws, the public policies, and the political issues of their adopted home, and to prepare themselves for participation in public affairs. Theodore Engelmann, who edited the Belleville Beobachter and the Belleville Zeitung, became circuit clerk in 1844;<sup>1</sup> John Scheel was county treasurer in 1857, county clerk from 1849 to 1857, and served in both houses of the legislature; George Bunson was school commissioner and county superintendent of schools from 1857 to 1859; Gustave Hilgard served three terms as surveyor.<sup>2</sup> The most influential of them all, Gustave Koerner, after serving in the General Assembly, was appointed to the Supreme Court, was twice lieutenant-governor, and in 1862 was appointed minister to Spain by President Lincoln.

It was inevitable that the rapid advance of the foreign group should arouse the antagonism of some of the native population, so opposed to them in manners, background, and convictions. The St. Clair County Germans did not hesitate to criticize what seemed to them faulty in the American system, and their "attacks" were bitterly resented by their neighbors. There arose a nativist faction who decried everything foreign and even favored restricting civil privileges to the American born. Some of these allied themselves with the American or Know Nothing party, which was anti-Catholic and anti-foreign, but had no constructive platform; but most of them were Whigs. The Germans threw their allegiance to the Democrats who held no scruples against either Catholics or foreigners, and sealed St. Clair County to the Democratic party for many years to come.

One of the forces for the amalgamation of the German and American elements was the Mexican War, which was extremely popular among all classes in southern Illinois. St. Clair County was suffering from financial depression; commodities produced at home brought discouraging prices, while prices of imported articles were prohibitive; the muddled bank situation in the state was reflected in the scarcity - absence so far as the farmers were concerned - of money; to add to the distress, the flooding of the Mississippi in 1844 had devastated the American Bottom of its crops and farm homes.<sup>3</sup> The outbreak of war was a welcome release into activity. Party differences and racial antagonisms were laid aside. A company of Germans from St. Clair and Monroe counties was one of the first to enlist.<sup>4</sup>

Enthusiasm for the war ran high in the county. A committee of the Democratic leaders, Lyman Trumbull, Gustave Koerner, William C. Kinney, John Reynolds, and William A. Bissell drew up a set of resolutions

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1. History of St. Clair County, Brink & McDonough, p. 103.
  2. See Roster of County Officers, this Inventory, p. 116-24.
  3. So complete was the destitution caused by this flood that the legislature in 1845 passed an act relieving the counties affected from paying state taxes, and authorizing them to remit county taxes to persons whose property had suffered. St. Clair County in March, 1845, absolved all its stricken citizens from taxation. L.1844-45, p. 353, 354; County Court Record, v. A, p. 169.
  4. Pease, The Frontier State, p. 400.



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justifying the war on high principles. The troops, on their return were greeted by celebrations with fireworks, speeches, and feasting; five thousand people attended the barbecue in Belleville in August, 1847.<sup>1</sup>

By the middle forties, it had become evident that Illinois had outgrown her original constitution. In 1847 a convention was called to devise an instrument which would correct the evils of the old one and make provision for future contingencies of government. To this convention St. Clair County sent four men, William W. Roman, William C. Kinney, John McCully, and George Bunsen.<sup>2</sup> The convention was an unwieldy body, the debates often rambling, and the effort to incorporate provisions which would please all factions represented without offending any, resulted in a document little stronger than the one it superseded. Three provisions were of especial interest to St. Clair County: that securing the corporate possession of commons to the villages possessing them, and providing for the leasing and granting of the common land;<sup>3</sup> the prohibition of free negroes from immigrating to or settling in the state, and of slave owners moving in in order to free their slaves;<sup>4</sup> and the extension of the period of naturalization of foreign-born persons from six months to one year.<sup>5</sup> The latter article invoked the opposition of the German element; Gustave Koerner worked consistently against the ratification of the constitution. The opposition was not successful; in March, 1848, the new constitution was ratified.

### The County in the Civil War Period

The conflicting social, economic, and political forces contending in Illinois for two decades before the Civil War came to a sharp focus in St. Clair County. This was partly inherent in the peculiar background of the county's history, and partly because of the concentration there of such influential figures in state and national affairs as Lyman Trumbull, Gustave Koerner, William H. Bissell, John Reynolds, James Shields, William C. Kinney, and William H. Underwood.

When the preservation of the Union became a paramount issue, in 1850, one of the earliest mass meetings in the state was held in Belleville, January 24, in which the people expressed themselves as favoring the preservation of the Union at all costs.<sup>6</sup> At a second meeting, in November of the same year, even stronger resolutions were passed, urging the cessation of agitation of the slavery question, and pledging "actual personal effort" to execute the fugitive slave law, in an effort to keep peace between North

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1. Illinois State Register, August 13, 1847.

2. Journal of the Convention (Springfield: Lamphier and Walker, 1847), p. 5.

3. Constitution of 1848, Art. XI.

4. Ibid., Art. XIV.

5. Ibid., Art. VI, sec. 1.

6. Alton Telegraph, February 8, 1850.

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and South.<sup>1</sup>

When Lincoln rose to political prominence, his clear-cut presentation of the issues at stake won to his party such men as Trumbull, Bissell, and Koerner. During his campaigning for Fremont in the presidential election of 1856, he drew a large and enthusiastic audience at Belleville; although Trumbull and three other speakers addressed the meeting, the Advocate announced, in praise of Lincoln, "the palm belongs to him."<sup>2</sup>

In that year the young Republican party was not strong enough to carry the county, but by the next election, not only the German element, but a considerable portion of the native population as well, had swung its allegiance to the party represented by Lincoln. Gustave Koerner was one of the delegates to the Chicago convention which nominated Lincoln for the presidency. In the election of 1860, 172,171 votes were cast for Lincoln, against 160,205, for Douglas. Four years later, the majority was even greater for Lincoln's reelection.<sup>3</sup>

Within a week after the president issued his proclamation of April, 1861, calling for volunteers to serve in the Union army, six full companies from St. Clair County reported at Springfield and were mustered into service as a part of the Ninth Regiment Illinois Infantry. During the four years of the war, 4,936 men from the county served as officers and privates in Illinois regiments; a large number more crossed the Mississippi and enlisted in Missouri companies.<sup>4</sup> Though this response represented the feeling of the majority of the population, there was, as has been pointed out, a group of southern sympathizers in St. Clair County, as well as in most of the other southern counties. Confederate recruits slipped into Kentucky, and across the Mississippi into Missouri, where the secession movement was so strong that for a time it seemed not unlikely that that state would join the rebel forces. Thus Illinois would be exposed to the enemy on two sides. To provide for the defense of the state, Governor Yates, at the advice of Senator Trumbull and Gustave Koerner, put through legislation establishing a strong militia force. To curb Confederate recruiting, three encampments were placed at the points where secession activities were heaviest. One of these was in St. Clair County, near Illinoistown opposite St. Louis.<sup>5</sup> So strong was the distrust of the loyalty of Missouri that the Illinois authorities, in the middle of a night, secretly removed 21,000 stands of arms and supplies from the United States arsenal at St. Louis and carried them to the Illinois bank.<sup>6</sup>

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1. Belleville Advocate, November 28, 1850.

2. Ibid., October 22, 1856.

3. Official Vote of the State of Illinois at General Elections (Springfield: Secretary of State).

4. History of St. Clair County, Brink and McDonough, p. 130.

5. Other encampments were at Cairo and at Alton.

6. Koerner, Memoirs, II, 130-33.

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More directly than in any war before or since, the county unit of civil government participated in the activities of the Civil War. In common with many Illinois counties, St. Clair offered a bounty of fifty dollars to each volunteer enlisting, to be paid from the county treasury;<sup>1</sup> funds were appropriated for the relief of the families of soldiers - Negro as well as white, and drafted men as well as volunteers;<sup>2</sup> and as the war neared its close, transportation was provided for sick and wounded soldiers returning home.<sup>3</sup>

The return of the victorious troops initiated a period of exaltation of the military hero. Nothing was too good for the "boys in blue." This attitude was reflected in the election of veterans to office, from the President of the United States to minor county offices. It held St. Clair County to a majority for General Grant as President in 1864 and 1868 and for General Richard Oglesby a governor of the state; in post-war years the roster of county officers showed many names that had previously appeared on the muster rolls. The momentum acquired by the Republican party during the Civil War years, and the influence of the powerful Belleville group of Republican leaders, kept the traditionally Democratic county in the Republican ranks until the Garfield-Hancock election in 1876, when new influences came in to throw the county back to the party of its original allegiance.<sup>4</sup>

### The Impact of Industrialism

The decade of the Civil War marked a fundamental change in St. Clair County. From an essentially agricultural community depending for its wealth upon the products of its fertile soil, it had become an embryonic commercial and industrial center. The withdrawal of large numbers of agricultural workers from the farms to serve in the army curtailed farm operations considerably; to meet the shortage, Negro labor, particularly after the Emancipation Proclamation, was imported from the south. The situation continued after the original necessity for it was removed. The Negro population of the county increased from 525 in 1860 to 1,297 in 1870.<sup>5</sup>

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1. County Court Record, v. C, p. 89-91.
  2. Ibid., p. 447<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, 489; v. D, p. 184, 203, 221, 309.
  3. Ibid., v. D, p. 248.
  4. Official Vote of the State of Illinois at General Elections, compiled by Secretary of State (Springfield).
  5. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, p. 388.



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The abundance of farm labor after the close of the war, coupled with the higher wages paid for labor in the expanding industrial establishments, had a tendency to draw workers away from the fields. The discovery of rich veins of coal in the vicinity of Belleville, Caseyville, and in the southwestern part of the county, already had made mining an important industry by 1860, but its development was impeded by poor transportation facilities. The first railroad in the county - and in the state - was a six-mile stretch built by John Reynolds in 1837 to convey coal from his mine in the bluffs to Illinoistown.<sup>1</sup>

During the railroad boom years of the fifties many short coal lines were constructed; between 1868 and 1873 the heavy building of the trunk lines took place. With the boon of cheap coal near at hand, and the increased transportation facilities to move raw materials and finished products, the manufacturing plants, hitherto producing mostly on a home-consumption scale, increased in number and output. In 1860 St. Clair was one of ten counties in the state having in excess of one hundred manufacturing establishments.<sup>2</sup> These were pretty well concentrated in Belleville, where flour mills, breweries and distilleries, wagon and carriage factories, harness and saddlery establishments, implement factories, and machine foundries flourished to supply the thriving agricultural hinterland.<sup>3</sup> The new railroad connections supplied wider markets, with St. Louis as the focal point of distribution. St. Louis, constantly increasing in importance as an industrial and commercial center, cast a long shadow across the Illinois side of the river. The widespreading railroad lines drew into the city as shavings to a magnet. Some of its industries spread across to Illinoistown. This town, laid out about 1818 on the part of the Cahokia commons adjacent to James Piggott's ferry, and consisting in 1823 of twenty or thirty houses scattered along the Vincennes-St. Louis post road,<sup>4</sup> had, in the intervening years, acquired a sprawling growth and an unsavory reputation as a dumping ground "where the moral filth of St. Louis could take refuge, to plan its deeds of crime."<sup>5</sup>

By 1865 its natural position as a river harbor and as the Illinois terminus for the railroads transporting produce from the entire southern portion of the state had attracted to it a thrifty population of over 5,000, and a number of independent industries. Some of the economic domination of St. Louis had been broken with the settlement of the harbor dispute. The Missouri city had, a few years before, attempted to deflect the

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1. William K. Ackerman, "Early Illinois Railroads," in Fergus Historical Series No. 23 (Chicago: Fergus Printing Co., 1884), p. 14.
  2. Bogart and Thompson, The Industrial State, p. 400.
  3. John Reynolds, Belleville in 1854 (Pamphlet in Chicago Historical Society).
  4. Peck, Gazetteer, p. 96, 160. Peck's opinion of the town was that "it possesses no advantages, and will probably never be valuable, except for corn fields and potato patches."
  5. Belleville Advocate, January 12, 1866.

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Mississippi channel to the west side of Bloody Island,<sup>1</sup> depriving the Illinois side of a harbor; it was not until Governor French had authorized the sheriff of St. Clair County to use a civil posse, or military force if necessary, to enforce the injunction against this move, that a satisfactory settlement was reached, securing the mile and a half of river front for the use of Illinois enterprises. In 1861, Illinoistown received a legislative charter extending its boundaries and changing its name to East St. Louis, the name of a village that had sprung up to the northeast of the older town. The change caused bitter contention for a time, but within a few years the two towns were merged into one thriving city.

The phenomenon of the growth of this city from that time on furnishes the key to the understanding of the economic and social milieu of St. Clair County for the modern period, as the incompatibility between the French and the American minds, the land urge of the early pioneer, and the impact of German industry and culture upon a frontier civilization, had provided the key to earlier periods. Between 1870 and 1880, East St. Louis almost doubled its population, overpassing Belleville by a thousand souls. In the next decade, its rate of increase was 65.1 percent, and for the next two decades its rate was the highest of any city in the state - 95.5 percent from 1890 to 1900, and 97.4 percent from 1900 to 1910. In the latter year, its population of 58,547 was surpassed by only two cities in the state, Chicago and Peoria. By 1930 its numbers had swelled to 74,347; and it had become fourth in size in the state, Rockford having pushed to third place.<sup>2</sup>

As the size of the city, with its attendant industrial advantages increased, the population of the county shifted cityward. In 1860, Belleville, the largest city, had a population of 7,520, leaving upwards of 30,000 persons distributed through the towns, villages, and rural areas. Since the density was a little more than 60 to the square mile - equalled at that date by only three other counties, Cook, Kane, and Peoria<sup>3</sup> - this distribution was remarkably even. By 1870, when East St. Louis had appeared on the horizon, that city and Belleville together contained 27 percent of the county's population of 51,068. In the next thirty years, the concentration in the two urban centers tipped the distribution balance to 54.38 percent of the total of 86,685; by 1930, 65.14 percent of the 157,775 people in the county were living in Belleville and East St. Louis. Those who had amassed fortunes lived in the spacious and beautiful residential sections; the middle income folk occupied large areas of modest homes and apartment buildings; those on the fringe of economic stability occupied the smoke-begrimed dwellings crowded about the steel mills, packing plants, railroad yards, and divers factories.

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1. So called because it was a favorite duelling ground in the days when duels were forbidden by stringent laws.
  2. Population Bulletin, Illinois, p. 4-7.
  3. Arthur Cole, Era of the Civil War (Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co., 1921), map opposite p. 330.



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As in the early days of statehood the tendency had been to penetrate from Cahokia to the outlying districts, so the tendency in the industrial era has been to draw in toward the industrial nuclei. Early figures on the population changes of the townships are not available, but between 1910 and 1930, eleven of the twenty-two townships showed a decrease in population; three, St. Clair,<sup>1</sup> New Athens, and Mascoutah, remained practically stable, and eight increased. Those which show an increase, with the exception of O'Fallon which has heavily producing coal mines, are the townships contiguous to Belleville and East St. Louis - Cantcen, Caseyville, Centerville, Sugar Loaf, and Stites.<sup>2</sup> These all contain either mines and subsidiary industrial plants feeding into the cities, or towns, such as Dupou with its oil wells, Washington Park, Fairmount City, and Brooklyn, which, though independently incorporated, are virtually suburbs of East St. Louis.

Thus the changes already indicated in the Civil War decade were magnified a hundredfold in the half century following. The shifting emphasis manifest in St. Clair County in that decade was in a degree typical of the state. Whole groups of counties still possessed an essentially agrarian civilization and were to maintain it; but the rise of Chicago and such cities as Peoria, Rockford, Quincy, Rock Island, and Springfield, indicated that Illinois had outgrown its pioneer agricultural childhood and was entering a vigorous industrial youth. It was evident that the constitution, provided with such compromising care in 1848, was outmoded by the needs of the new order. In 1869 a convention was called to draft a new instrument. The members from St. Clair were William H. Snyder and William H. Underwood of Belleville. Many fundamental inadequacies and omissions were corrected in the new constitution and new measures introduced, sufficiently elastic to furnish guidance for an expanding commonwealth. One salutary provision was the abolition of private laws, which had consumed much legislative time and laid the assembly open to charges of favoritism to certain counties, towns, and individuals. St. Clair had opposed this type of lawmaking, and it was the boast of Belleville that it had "not received any exclusive legislation and expected none. . . . It depends on the Lord and its own energies for its growth and prosperity."<sup>3</sup>

The free education system of the state was greatly strengthened and expanded, and the relationship between church and the state, particularly as it affected educational institutions, determined. Both Snyder and Underwood contributed to the debates liberal and farsighted encouragement of education and of complete divorcement of state and church.<sup>4</sup> Among the most important provisions were those for the control of railroads and

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1. Part of St. Clair Township was added to Belleville in 1924.
  2. Population Bulletin, Illinois, p. 31,32.
  3. Reynolds, Belleville in 1854, p. 12.
  4. Debates and Proceedings of the Constitutional Convention (Springfield, 1870), II, 1319,1740.



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warehouses, designed to end abuses in rate and storage discriminations which had called forth vigorous protests from all parts of the state, also to do away with the selling of railroad bonds by townships and counties.<sup>1</sup> To exercise this control the General Assembly set up what was for that time a unique body - a railroad and warehouse commission of three members.<sup>2</sup> Its first chairman was Gustave Koerner of Belleville.

During the third constitutional period, to an even greater degree than in the second, the increased rapidity of transportation and communication and the combination of other economic and social forces resulted in a pushing of local interests beyond county boundaries, a merging with the wider interest of section and state. At the same time, in St. Clair County, the growing population and the increasing need for local regulation of conditions arising directly or indirectly out of the complexities of a highly industrialized civilization combined with a persisting agricultural order, brought about an expansion of county offices and agencies. One of the first of these was the drainage commission, organized under constitutional and statutory authority to promote flood control and the drainage of swamp lands. In 1880 the county had attained the population requirement of sixty thousand necessary for an independent recorder; in 1898 a board of review was set up for the equalization of taxes. Most of the new offices and agencies appeared after the turn of the century, the county auditor in 1912, the superintendent of highways in 1913; in 1920 the board of assessors was created to facilitate the task of property assessment. Agricultural and livestock interests were served by the formation of the Farm Bureau in 1919 and the addition of a county veterinarian in 1925. The latest field of expansion in county activities is that of public welfare and public health, with the appointment of adult and juvenile probation officers to serve the county and circuit courts, the establishment of a juvenile detention home in 1922, the organization of the tuberculosis sanitarium board in 1922, and of the county bureau of public welfare in 1937.<sup>3</sup>

When the Belleville group of Civil War statesmen passed, the days of the giants were over. St. Clair has since produced and attracted men of high capacity and influence outreaching county boundaries, has furnished the state with able and effective officials, from Henry Raab who served two terms as superintendent of public instruction (1883-87, 1891-95), to

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. XI, sec. 9-15; separate sec. "Municipal Subscriptions to Railroads and Private Corporations"; Art. XIII, sec. 1-7.
  2. L.1871, p. 618; Ernest Ludlew Bogard and Charles Manfred Thompson, The Industrial State (Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co., 1922), p. 91.
  3. For detailed discussions of, and the records arising from these offices and agencies, see this Inventory, chapters, XVIII, p. 277; III, 180; XI, 249; XIV, 260; XVI, 272; X, 248; XXIV, 290; XIX, 280; IV, 192; VI, 223; XXIII, 289; XXII, 285; XX, 281.

## Historical Sketch

Paul Farthing, the blind jurist elected to the Supreme bench in 1933, but has never concentrated within its borders at one time so strong a group of leaders as that which functioned at the time of Koerner and Trumbull. Politically, the county has swung between the two dominant parties since the Republican sway was broken by a Democratic majority against Garfield in 1880. It remained Democratic through Cleveland's three campaigns; carried for McKinley in 1896, and returned to the Democratic fold with a majority for Bryan in 1900. The popularity in Illinois of Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft pulled St. Clair County to the Republican side in the elections of 1904 and 1908, but in 1912 it returned a Democratic majority for Woodrow Wilson. This was the year of Roosevelt's "Bull Moose" party, and the county showed a strong Progressive minority. The Democratic majority held in 1916, but in the next two elections, 1920 and 1924, the rise of the Farmer-Labor party deflected the Democratic vote, and threw the majorities to Harding and Coolidge. In the elections since 1928, the county has remained steadily Democratic. In six presidential elections since 1852 St. Clair County has voted contrary to the state as a whole - in the Garfield-Hancock campaign of 1880, Blaine-Cleveland in 1884, Harrison-Cleveland in 1888, McKinley-Bryan in 1900, Hughes-Wilson in 1916, and Hoover-Smith in 1928 - each time throwing a Democratic balance against a statewide Republican majority.<sup>1</sup>

The people of the county who determined these later elections were a very different group from those who had gathered from the old factions into the early Democratic party, or had embraced Lincoln's Republicanism. Not only was the population vastly expanded, but the basic group of native Americans, combined with the sturdy Germans and an infiltration of freed Negroes, had been enhanced by immigrants from all quarters of Europe. Among the first to come, after the Germans, were the Irish. Construction work on the Illinois-Michigan Canal and the railroads attracted large numbers to Illinois. In St. Clair County, they settled in East St. Louis and to a smaller extent in and around Belleville. As the early American settlers had learned the language of the French inhabitants, so the Irish picked up the speech of the Germans.<sup>2</sup> Later came the Poles, Bohemians, and Russians, the Austrians and Hungarians. Always the heaviest immigration was from Germany.<sup>3</sup> In 1870 the number of foreign-born persons was 18,321, most of whom were Germans. The number of actual immigrants decreased in 1880 to 15,972, in 1890 to 12,868, and in 1900 to 11,779,<sup>4</sup> though the number of those with foreign-born parents increased. Germany aside, Ireland, England, and France furnished the larg-

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1. See Official Vote of the State of Illinois at General Elections, bulletin published quadrennially by the Secretary of State.
  2. Fred J. Kern, "The First Two Counties of Illinois and Their People" in Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society, Publication No. 22 (Springfield: Ill. State Library, 1916), p. 38.
  3. In 1900, the first year for which the census includes the countries of origin, Germans made up 62.42 percent of the foreign-born population; in 1910 the percentage was 37.05; in 1920, 27.79; in 1930, 26.58.
  4. Eleventh Census, 1890, p. 408; Twelfth Census, 1900, p. 745-47.

## Historical Sketch

est numbers of foreign-born for these decades. The decades immediately preceding and following the turn of the century comprised the period of the "open-door" policy toward European immigration and the philosophy of the American "melting pot." The far-flung extension of railroads into the West and the rapid growth of middle-western industry had provided a huge market for cheap labor which was met by the importation of hordes of middle and southern European laborers. The impact of this wave of immigration upon St. Clair County was strongest in the decade 1900-1910, when the number of foreign-born reached 15,600. Austria, Hungary, and Russia contributed the heaviest numbers, next to Germany.<sup>1</sup> The World War in the next decade checked the flow of immigration, so that in 1920, the foreign-born numbered only 12,938.<sup>2</sup> For this decade, the Polish outnumbered all other foreign-born groups except German. An Armenian colony of more than 200 settled in East St. Louis in these years. By 1930 the force of the Federal quota law of 1924 restricting foreign immigration was manifest in the reduction of the number of foreign-born to 9,063.<sup>3</sup>

At the same time that the foreign population was swelling, the Negro population was likewise increasing, drawn by the opportunities for independent farming and more especially by the market for unskilled labor in the mills and packing plants of East St. Louis. From 1,297, or 2.5 percent in 1870, the number increased to 2,577, or 4.1 percent in 1880, to 8,110, or 6.7 percent in 1910, and finally, by 1930 to 15,550, or a fraction below 10 percent.<sup>4</sup>

The welding of this heterogeneous mass of humanity into an integrated, functioning citizenry was a slow process, attended by difficulties and sometimes halted by disasters. The nationwide industrial expansion penetrating to particular communities such as St. Clair County, and reaching unexpected proportions through the use of chemical discoveries and mechanical inventions - particularly labor-saving machinery - gave rise to the acquisition of large fortunes by the industrial leaders. Labor was forced to devise new methods of protecting itself against the inroads of the machine, and to find means of participating in the new wealth, of obtaining its share of the production. Out of this necessity grew the organized labor movement whose pioneer organizations were such groups as the Molly Maguires, the Knights of Labor, and the United Mine Workers. In the course of this economic struggle occurred some of the calamities that roughened the social and civic development of the county. In May, 1883, a coal miners' strike originating at the mines in the Belleville and Caseyville districts in St. Clair County and around Collinsville in Madison County, and extending to Troy and Marissa, threatened such violence that the sheriffs of the two counties appealed to Governor Hamilton for the aid of the state militia. The riot leaders were arrested and taken to Belleville, but released on their own recognizances without trial, and peace was restored.<sup>5</sup>

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1. Thirteenth Census, 1910, p. 500.
  2. Fourteenth Census, 1920, p. 272, 273.
  3. Fifteenth Census, 1930, p. 638-40.
  4. See Census Reports for the years mentioned.
  5. Report of the Governor of Illinois to the Thirty-Third General Assembly (Springfield: H. W. Rokker, 1883), p. 3-29.



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Another serious strike occurred in East St. Louis in April, 1886, when state intervention again became necessary to prevent violence. The most serious occurrence was the riot of July 2, 1917, in East St. Louis, brought about by the use of nonunion Negro labor to break a strike called in May in the mills of the Aluminum Ore Company. Labor agencies placarded the South inducing Negroes to the city. The resulting influx fanned racial hostility, already dormant, to such a point that on the night of July 1, a riot broke out that resulted in loss of life among both races, and the destruction by fire of whole blocks of Negro dwellings. The city was placed under martial law until the violence ceased. With the restoration of peace and the gradual adjustment of labor problems, a more harmonious racial relationship has been reached.<sup>1</sup>

As the Civil War had the effect of submerging political differences beneath loyalty to a common cause, the entrance of the United States into the World War was a powerful force in amalgamating racial and national groups. There was much opposition to the war in St. Clair County, because of the numbers of people of German birth and parentage. But once in, the county succumbed, with the rest of the state and the nation, to the war-time fever. The actual military functions were carried on more directly under Federal supervision than in any preceding conflict, but county Red Cross, food conservation, and Liberty Loan groups organized and worked energetically, not only in the cities, but in the smaller towns and rural areas as well. At Belleville, Scott Field was established as a training camp for fliers in the aviation corps.

In addition to the intangible effects produced by any general social upheaval, the war was directly responsible for two trends in St. Clair County whose effects have persisted to the present. One was the development of the local manufacture of products, particularly of chemicals, that had hitherto been imported from Germany. Although these new industries, in common with those long established, suffered setbacks during the years of economic depression beginning in 1929, they have become an established factor in the industrial productivity of the county. The second trend was the back-to-the-farm movement, stimulated by the heavy demand for grain and meat products. When the war pressure was removed, this movement was somewhat dissipated, but the depression furnished fresh impetus to the cultivation of the land as a means of subsistence.

In the struggle to preserve and increase the basic wealth-producing activities of the county, with their deep reaching implications in the economic, political, social, and cultural life of the people, is woven the story of the county's development from the sprawling wilderness settlement, to which Arthur St. Clair gave his name a hundred and fifty years ago, to the close-knit, cosmopolitan community of today bound together by the thousand interacting complexities of modern civilization.

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1. Chicago Tribune, July 3, 1917; unpublished letter of John E. Eubanks, former police officer of East St. Louis.

## 2. GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND RECORDS SYSTEM

### Introduction

The county in Illinois is a corporate body<sup>1</sup> and an administrative unit of the state; its governmental organization is at all times largely an expression of this dual nature.

The growth of the county as a body politic is reflected, in such of the state's three constitutional periods, in a progressive expansion of the powers which may by law be exercised by the county board, and in the creation of new, and the extension of existing, county offices. The latter phase of growth in St. Clair County and others similarly organized at present, has also been affected by the adoption of township organization, which for the first time constituted the civil towns as an additional level of government.

An analogous development appears in the state's invasion of new fields of government and the extension of the county's role as its agent. Originally, the county performed but a single important function for the state, that of collecting its share of the taxes levied within the county. Since then, however, education, public health, registration of vital statistics, public assistance, and many similar if less important matters, have entered the province of state control or supervision. To effect this control, new governmental units, subcounty districts of various types, have come into existence or have been converted to new purposes; the county, because of its intermediate position, has become more important as a medium of that control.

Thus the complete operation of county government in Illinois brings into play a number of partly distinct authorities. Their relationships, at any time, are complex. The changing governmental organization of St. Clair County, therefore, is easiest traced from the viewpoint of the major functions of county government.

### General Administration

In St. Clair, as a territorial county, jurisdiction over county administrative duties has been vested in various bodies, from 1790 to

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1. R.L.1827, p. 107; R.S.1845, p. 130; R.S.1874, p. 306.

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1805 in the court of general quarter sessions of the peace;<sup>1</sup> from 1805 to 1814, in the county court of common pleas;<sup>2</sup> and from 1814 to 1818, in the county court.<sup>3</sup> While pending the organization of the territory into a state, a justices' court, composed of justices of the peace, any three of whom constituted a court, or quorum, functioned as the county administrative unit.<sup>4</sup> Under the first constitution, for all counties, the county commissioners' court acted as the county board.<sup>5</sup> It was expressly declared to have no original or appellate jurisdiction in civil or criminal actions, but had all power necessary to the exercise of its jurisdiction in cases concerning the public affairs of the county collectively.<sup>6</sup> The commissioners were constitutional officers,<sup>7</sup> and elected;<sup>8</sup> the court existed solely by statutory provision.<sup>9</sup> Attached to it in a ministerial capacity was the independent statutory office of clerk of the county commissioners' court,<sup>10</sup> at first filled at the appointment of the court,<sup>11</sup> later by election;<sup>12</sup> the clerk was bonded in the sum of \$1,000.<sup>13</sup>

Under the second constitution, the newly created county court succeeded to the position of the county commissioners' court.<sup>14</sup> As an administrative body,<sup>15</sup> it was composed of the county judge, an elected, constitutional officer,<sup>16</sup> and two justices of the peace, statutory officers,<sup>17</sup> elected at large.<sup>18</sup> Another new office, that of clerk of the

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1. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, ed. Theodore Calvin Pease in Illinois Historical Collections, v. XVII (Springfield: Illinois State Historical Library, 1925), Law Series, I, 37,215,485,489. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, ed. Francis S. Philbrick in Illinois Historical Collections, v. XXI (Springfield: Illinois State Historical Library, 1930), Law Series, II, 78,79.
  2. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 116,117.
  3. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, ed. Nathaniel Pope (Kaskaskia: Matthew Duncan, July 4, 1815), II, 345,349.
  4. Laws of Illinois Territory 1817-1818 (Kaskaskia: Berry and Blackwell, 1818), p. 90.
  5. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4; L.1819, p. 175,176.
  6. L.1819, p. 176.
  7. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4.
  8. Ibid.; L.1819, p. 100; L.1821, p. 100; R.L.1837, p. 103,104.
  9. L.1819, p. 175.
  10. Ibid.
  11. Ibid.
  12. R.L.1837, p. 49; L.1845, p. 28.
  13. L.1819, p. 176,177.
  14. L.1849, p. 65.
  15. The county court was also a court of law. For its legal status and jurisdiction as such, see Administration of Justice, Courts, p. 88.
  16. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17.
  17. L.1849, p. 65,66.
  18. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 1,16,19.



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county court, was created to provide it with a ministerial officer; the clerk also was elected, and bonded in the sum of \$3,000.<sup>1</sup>

The Constitution of 1848 also made provision, for the first time, for an optional form of county government.<sup>2</sup> The subsequent enabling acts<sup>3</sup> provided that whenever voters of a county might so determine, that county should adopt township organization; one of the principal results of such a change was to alter the legal status of the county board.<sup>4</sup> St. Clair County so elected in 1883, and the board of county commissioners was succeeded by a board of supervisors, composed of members elected one in each of the several townships.<sup>5</sup> The clerk of the county court was required by law to act as the ministerial officer of the new county board.<sup>6</sup> In 1872, however, that clerk was replaced by a new officer, the county clerk, whose office had been created, and made elective, by the third constitution.<sup>7</sup> The county clerk was required by law to act as ministerial officer for the county board,<sup>8</sup> which determined in what amount he should be bonded.<sup>9</sup> Another significant change in the legal status of the county board, has been the addition to its membership of assistant supervisors, elected from the various towns on the basis of population;<sup>10</sup> the assistant supervisors have no power or duties as town officers, but are members of the county board and as such enjoy the same powers and rights as other members.<sup>11</sup>

The Constitution of 1870 also provided for a new form of county board in counties not under township organization. This board, was to be composed of three officers, styled commissioners, who would transact all county business as provided by law. Subsequent legislation granted to the board of county commissioners all powers and duties formerly exercised by the county court acting in its administrative capacity.<sup>12</sup> St. Clair County functioned under this administrative body from 1873 to 1883.

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1. L.1849, p. 63,64.
  2. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6.
  3. The original enabling act of 1849 (L.1849, p. 190-224) was repealed two years later by a more comprehensive but essentially similar law (L.1851, p. 35-78).
  4. Other effects of the change, within the sphere of county government proper, appear with regard to the legal status of certain officers involved in the taxation procedure. See Finances, p. 84.
  5. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6; L.1849, p. 192,202-4; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 5. From 1873 to 1883 St. Clair County was under the county commission form of government (Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 6; L.1873-74, p. 79,80).
  6. L.1849, p. 203; L.1851, p. 78.
  7. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
  8. R.S.1874, p. 260,273.
  9. Ibid., p. 321.
  10. Ibid., p. 1080; L.1925, p. 605; L.1929, p. 774; L.1931, p. 905-10; L.1933, p. 1115,1116.
  11. R.S.1874, p. 1080.
  12. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 6; L.1873-74, p. 79.

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Concurrent with the changing legal status of the county board is an expansion of its functions without, however, considerable extension beyond the original jurisdiction conferred upon the county commissioners' court. The authority of that body extended to the imposition and regulation of taxes,<sup>1</sup> a limited but increasing management of county property,<sup>2</sup> and a growing fiscal control, stringent in regard to tax collections,<sup>3</sup> sporadic in its check on the expenditures of other county officers.<sup>4</sup> The court additionally had power to appoint judges of election,<sup>5</sup> select juries,<sup>6</sup> and, with limitations, to provide for the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges.<sup>7</sup> Poor relief<sup>8</sup> and a tentative supervision of education<sup>9</sup> also fell within its general administrative jurisdiction.

The effect of subsequent legislation, in the main, has only been to broaden that jurisdiction. The county board has been given full power to purchase, contract for, dispose of, and make regulations concerning all real and personal property of the county.<sup>10</sup> Until 1912 it was also required to audit all claims against the county and the accounts of such officers as are not provided for by law.<sup>11</sup> Otherwise, the many changes in the form of county board in St. Clair County have not materially affected the general administrative jurisdiction of that body.<sup>12</sup>

Finances

In Illinois counties, there has always been a close relationship between the taxation processes and the fiduciary function. This circumstance, as well as frequent evidence of the county board's ultimate control in such matters, appears in a resume of the legal status and duties of the officers involved.

Taxation

The assessment function in taxation was delegated by the first

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1. L.1819, p. 175.
  2. Ibid., p. 237,238; L.1842-43, p. 128.
  3. L.1819, p. 238,318; L.1823, p. 208; R.L.1827, p. 373,375; R.L.1829, p. 121; L.1842-43, p. 112; L.1845, p. 11,12.
  4. R.L.1827, p. 366; L.1831, p. 175.
  5. L.1819, p. 90.
  6. Ibid., p. 255; L.1823, p. 182.
  7. Either by calling on the able-bodied men of the county for labor, or by raising bond issues by subscription. L.1819, p. 333,334,336, 337,343; L.1821, p. 167; L.1825, p. 130-33,
  8. L.1819, p. 127; L.1839, p. 138,139.
  9. R.S.1845, p. 500,501.
  10. L.1851, p. 51,52.
  11. Ibid., p. 51. In 1911 provision was made for the election of an auditor in counties the size of St. Clair (L.1911, p. 242,243).
  12. Cf. this running summary with R.S.1874, p. 306, and R.S.1937, p. 910-12.

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General Assembly to the county treasurer, a statutory officer appointed by the county commissioners' court.<sup>1</sup> The administrative body, within statutory limits, fixed the amount of the levy, while the value of many categories of real and personal property was fixed by law; however, a limited discretion was left to the assessing officer.<sup>2</sup> In 1825 assessments were made by the county assessor, also an appointee of the county commissioners' court.<sup>3</sup> This duty reverted to the county treasurer in 1827<sup>4</sup> and continued to be vested in that office until 1839, when the General Assembly provided for the appointment by the county commissioners' court of district assessors, not to exceed one in every justice's district.<sup>5</sup> The earlier system was reestablished in 1844, with the treasurer, however, now having the status of ex-officio county assessor.<sup>6</sup> Since St. Clair County's adoption of township organization in 1883, the assessment function has been performed on the lower governmental level by town assessors elected one in each township,<sup>7</sup> with the exception of those years (1873-1883) when the commission form of government was adopted by St. Clair County, and the county treasurer acted as assessor.<sup>8</sup> The treasurer in 1898 was made supervisor of assessments<sup>9</sup> and performed this duty until 1920 when the population of St. Clair reached the requirement set by the legislature for the election of a separate board of assessors consisting of five members.<sup>10</sup> Today, the principal duties of the assessing officers, taken together, are to bring up to date each year the periodic assessment of real property, to take current lists of, and appraise personal property and special categories of other property under the direction of the board of assessors.<sup>11</sup>

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1. L.1819, p. 315. However, under the territorial government, the first county assessor, in St. Clair County, was an appointee of the court of common pleas. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 71, and Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 147. In 1814, the Governor of the Illinois Territory appointed a county treasurer for each county, this officer performed the duties of the former county assessor. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, II, 600-604.
  2. L.1819, p. 313,319; L.1825, p. 173; L.1839, p. 4-6; L.1840, p. 4; L.1845, p. 6.
  3. L.1825, p. 173.
  4. R.L.1827, p. 330.
  5. L.1839, p. 4.
  6. L.1843, p. 231.
  7. L.1849, p. 192; L.1871-72, p. 20-24.
  8. L.1873, p. 74.
  9. L.1898, p. 36.
  10. Ibid., p. 37. Population requirement was one hundred and twenty-five thousand. The population of St. Clair in 1920 was 136,520. Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S.Census 1930, p. 31.
  11. L.1853, p. 16,17; L.1855, p. 18,24,55; L.1871-72, p. 11,14,15,19,23; L.1873, p. 51; L.1879, p. 241-45; L.1881, p. 133; L.1885, p. 234; L.1895, p. 300,301; L.1905, p. 360; L.1915, p. 568; L.1923, p. 495,500; L.1927, p. 774; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 69.



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The functions which today fall within the scope of the board of review were originally dispersed and attenuated. In the first constitutional period, it was left to interested individuals or parties to report property omitted from assessment; the county board could hear appeals from assessments, but there was no provision for their equalization by districts.<sup>1</sup> During the second constitutional period, appeals, in St. Clair County, were made to the county court.<sup>2</sup> After the adoption of township organization in 1883, town boards were empowered to revise the assessments within their own jurisdiction, and the county board was required to meet annually to assess omitted property, review assessments upon complaint, and equalize valuations between towns,<sup>3</sup> with the exception of those years during which the commission form of government obtained in St. Clair County when the board of county commissioners heard appeals.<sup>4</sup> In 1898 this authority of the county board was transferred to the newly created board of review, composed of the chairman of the county board as ex-officio chairman, the county clerk as ex-officio clerk, and an additional member appointed by the county judge.<sup>5</sup> In 1923 the county clerk was replaced by another member appointed by the county judge;<sup>6</sup> the board of review now appoints its own clerk.<sup>7</sup>

The collection function was originally performed in all counties by the sheriff, an elected constitutional officer.<sup>8</sup> Its nature has changed little since that time. Essentially, the collecting officer collects taxes according to information originating outside his jurisdiction, pays over such sums to authorities designated by statute to receive them, and reports on payments of taxes and delinquencies.<sup>9</sup> In 1839, by a development analogous to that which occurred with regard to assessments, the county board extended its control to appoint a regular county collector, and for the first time the officer of collection was required to be

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1. L.1819, p. 316; R.L.1827, p. 330; L.1839, p. 7; L.1843, p. 239; L.1845, p. 8.
  2. L.1849, p. 65.
  3. L.1871-72, p. 21,22.
  4. Ibid., p. 69; L.1873-74, p. 79. From 1873 to 1883 St. Clair County was under the county commission form of government.
  5. L.1898, p. 46. Counties of one hundred and twenty-five thousand or more population could elect a board of review. St. Clair County attained the population requirement in 1920. Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S.Census 1930, p. 31.
  6. L.1923, p. 496; L.1932, p. 75.
  7. L.1923, p. 496,497.
  8. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; L.1819, p. 316. Tax collections in St. Clair County were made by the sheriff as ex-officio county collector from 1799 to 1883. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 469,472; Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 69; Laws of the Territory of Illinois, II, 626.
  9. L.1819, p. 316-18; L.1821, p. 182,183; R.L.1827, p. 332,333; R.L.1829, p. 118,121-23; L.1831, p. 125; R.L.1837, p. 581,582; L.1839, p. 7-12; L.1843, p. 243; L.1845, p. 11; L.1847, p. 81; L.1871-72, p. 55,57,58.

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bonded.<sup>1</sup> Soon after the law reverted to the earlier situation, with the sheriff acting as ex-officio collector.<sup>2</sup> This situation continued until St. Clair County adopted township organization when town collectors were elected, one in each township, and the county treasurer became ex-officio county collector.<sup>3</sup> The town officers paid over their collections directly to the county officer, and supplied the basic information for the latter's summary report of collections in the county.<sup>4</sup> Since 1883 this system has prevailed.

Coordination of the taxation processes has always been effected by the county clerk or his predecessors. The assessment books are made out by the clerk, and returned to him by the assessor; similarly, the collector reports on collections on delinquent property; finally, the treasurer's receipts to the collector for taxes paid come into his possession, and the centralization of records concerning the basic taxation procedure is completed.<sup>5</sup>

Fiscal Control

The fiduciary function in county finances belongs to the county treasurer alone. The duties of the office have remained substantially the same since its creation; namely to receive, principally from the collectors of taxes, the revenue of the county; to have custody of its funds; and to disburse funds only by specific authorization by law, or in accordance with the order of the county board.<sup>6</sup> Through this last requirement, and that of the treasurer to report periodically to the board on the transactions of his office, in addition to his regular settlement with it, the lines of financial authority once more lead to the county board.<sup>7</sup>

The office of county auditor was created in 1911 for counties under township organization of more than seventy-five thousand and less than three-hundred thousand inhabitants.<sup>8</sup> The incumbent was charged with such duties as auditing claims against the county, collecting information on

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1. In a sum double the amount to be collected, and with such securities as should be approved by the appointing body. L.1838-39, p. 7,8.
  2. L.1843, p. 234.
  3. L.1853, p. 14; L.1871-72, p. 664. From 1873 to 1883 St. Clair County was under the county commission form of government, the sheriff continued as ex-officio collector.
  4. L.1871-72, p. 41,56,57.
  5. L.1819, p. 317; R.L.1827, p. 373; R.L.1837, p. 582; L.1839, p. 8-12; L.1840, p. 3; L.1845, p. 9,11; L.1853, p. 66,77,111; L.1871-72, p. 32, 34,35,46,56-58; L.1873-74, p. 51; L.1911, p. 485; L.1917, p. 654; L.1919, p. 765; L.1931, p. 747.
  6. L.1819, p. 315,316; R.S.1845, p. 138; L.1861, p. 239; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
  7. L.1819, p. 192,318; R.L.1837, p. 582,583; L.1845, p. 33; R.S.1845, p. 138,139; L.1861, p. 239,240; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
  8. L.1911, p. 242,243.

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the cost of maintenance of county institutions, and approving orders for supplies. Recommendations and reports were to be made to the county board. By 1911 St. Clair County had already attained the population minimum, and the first auditor was elected in the quadrennial election of 1912.

Administration of Justice

Courts

Justice, in Illinois counties, has been administered by a constantly increasing number of bodies.<sup>1</sup> The Constitution of 1818 vested the judicial powers of the state in a Supreme Court and such inferior courts as the General Assembly should ordain and establish; required the Supreme Court justices to hold circuit courts in the several counties; and provided for the appointment, in such manner and with such powers and duties as the General Assembly should direct, of a competent number of justices of the peace in each county.<sup>2</sup>

Federal statutes already allowed circuit courts, in all states, jurisdiction over the naturalization of aliens;<sup>3</sup> the first state legislature additionally conferred jurisdiction over all causes at common law and chancery, and over all cases of treason, felony, and other crimes and misdemeanors.<sup>4</sup> The legislature further required that two terms of a circuit court be held in each county annually by one of the Supreme Court justices,<sup>5</sup> but in 1824 provision was made for the holding of circuit courts by separate circuit court judges, to be appointed, as were the Supreme Court justices, by both branches of the General Assembly, and to hold office during good behavior.<sup>6</sup> In 1827 the General Assembly repealed the

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1. In St. Clair County from 1790 to 1818 justice was administered by the court of general quarter sessions of the peace, court of common pleas, orphans' court, justices of the peace, magistrates, circuit court, and justices' court. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, p. 4ff. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, p. 8-14. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, p. 7ff. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, p. 115-18. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, p. 181-297. Ordinance of 1787, Revised Code of the Illinois Territory 1807-14, p. 357, 358, 373, 374. Ninian W. Edwards, History of Illinois 1778-1833 (Springfield, 1870), p. 157. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, v. II, p. 345-349. Laws of Illinois Territory 1817-1818, p. 90, 91.
  2. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 1, 4, 8.
  3. U.S.S. at Large, v. 2, p. 153-55.
  4. L.1819, p. 380.
  5. Ibid., p. 378.
  6. L.1824, p. 41. The Constitution of 1818, which had required that Supreme Court justices be appointed by the General Assembly, further provided that they should not, after the first session of the legislature subsequent to January 1, 1824, hold circuit courts unless required to by law (Art. IV. sec. 4).



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1824 law, and again provided for circuit courts to be held by Supreme Court justices.<sup>1</sup> At the next session of the legislature, when a new circuit was established, provision was made for the appointment of a circuit judge to act therein.<sup>2</sup> At that time, therefore, the circuit courts were held by Supreme Court justices in four judicial circuits and by a circuit judge in the fifth.<sup>3</sup> A change was made again in 1835, when power to hold circuit courts was taken away from the Supreme Court justices and provision was made for the appointment of five circuit judges, in addition to the one already authorized, to hold circuit courts.<sup>4</sup> The six judicial circuits existing at that time were supplemented during the next few years by the creation of new circuits,<sup>5</sup> so that they numbered nine in 1841 when the office of circuit judge was again abolished and the Supreme Court justices, also increased to nine, were required to hold circuit courts.<sup>6</sup>

The authority of justices of the peace was limited by law to jurisdiction in specified civil cases and in misdemeanors, with appeals allowed from their judgments to the circuit court.<sup>7</sup> The power of appointment, the legislature at first reserved to itself;<sup>8</sup> in 1827, however, justices of the peace were required to be elected, two in each of such districts as should be determined within statutory limits by the county commissioners' court.<sup>9</sup>

Jurisdiction over probate matters was at the outset delegated to the county commissioners' court.<sup>10</sup> By act of the next General Assembly, it was

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1. R.L.1827, p. 118,119.
  2. R.L.1829, p. 38.
  3. Ibid., p. 42,48
  4. L.1835, p. 150.
  5. L.1837, p. 113; L.1838-39, p. 155.
  6. L.1841, p. 173.
  7. L.1819, p. 185,192,195.
  8. Ibid., p. 22.
  9. R.S.1827, p. 255,256. Since 1821, however, the county commissioners' court had been required to establish such districts, which also constituted general election precincts (L.1821, p. 74). For changes in the statutory limitations of this power of the court, see R.L.1827, p. 255, and R.L.1829, p. 93.
  10. L.1819, p. 223-33. Prior to the admission of Illinois into the Union, jurisdiction over probate matters in St. Clair was in the court of probate from 1790 to 1795. Laws of the Northwest Territory, Law Series, I, 9. In 1795, the orphans' court exercised probate jurisdiction. Laws of the Northwest Territory, Law Series, I, 181. Later in 1805, the court of common pleas superseded the orphans' court (Laws of Indiana Territory, Law Series, II, 116,117). However, in 1814, the court of common pleas was abolished, jurisdiction was then vested in the county court until 1818 (Laws of the Territory of Illinois, II, 345). From 1818 to 1819, until the organization of the State, it was in the justices' court (Laws of Illinois Territory 1817-18, p. 91,92).

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transferred to the court of probate,<sup>1</sup> consisting in each county of one judge appointed by the General Assembly.<sup>2</sup> As a result of the substitution in 1837 of probate justices of the peace for the judges of probate,<sup>3</sup> jurisdiction over probate matters for the first time was placed in the hands of elected officers.<sup>4</sup>

The county court was the creation of the second constitution,<sup>5</sup> which also made circuit judges elected officers.<sup>6</sup> With regard to the new court, it was further provided by law that it should be held in each county by a single elected officer, the county judge.<sup>7</sup> Its authority was extended to jurisdiction in all probate matters, and to such jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases as might be conferred by the General Assembly.<sup>8</sup> In pursuance of this latter provision, the county court was first given the same civil and criminal jurisdiction as justices of the peace;<sup>9</sup> at the same session of the General Assembly, however, it was declared that county judges when exercising this jurisdiction, acted only in the capacity of justices of the peace.<sup>10</sup> Until the next constitutional period, the county court, as such, was given jurisdiction only in a limited number of special actions;<sup>11</sup> it was, however, considered entitled to equal jurisdiction with the circuit court over naturalization.<sup>12</sup> In this same period, provision was made for increasing, on the basis of population, the number of justices of the peace to be elected in each district. In St. Clair County, and others similarly organized, one additional justice of the peace is now elected for every one thousand inhabitants exceeding two thousand inhabitants in each town.<sup>13</sup>

Provision was first made by the Constitution of 1870 for the establishment by the General Assembly of an independent probate court in each county having a population of more than fifty thousand inhabitants.<sup>14</sup> As

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1. L.1821, p. 121.
  2. Ibid., p. 119. The Constitution of 1818 (Art. IV, sec. 4) had also designated this matter of election for judges of all inferior courts.
  3. R.L.1837, p. 176,177.
  4. The Constitution of 1818 (Art. IV, sec. 8) had reserved to the General Assembly the right to prescribe the manner of appointment of justices of the peace.
  5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 1,16.
  6. Ibid., sec. 7,15.
  7. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17.
  8. Ibid., sec. 18.
  9. L.1849, p. 65.
  10. Ibid.
  11. Ibid., p. 65,66; L.1853, p. 103; L.1861, p. 171,172.
  12. U.S.S. at Large, v. 2, p. 155.
  13. L.1854, p. 30. No more than five justices, however, may be elected from any town or election precinct.
  14. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20.

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first established by statute, the new courts were to be formed in counties of one hundred thousand or more inhabitants.<sup>1</sup> This population requirement was lowered to seventy thousand in 1881.<sup>2</sup> The population of St. Clair County having reached this figure, in 1900, a separate probate court was established in 1902.<sup>3</sup> The county court, early in this period, was given concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court in appeals from justices of the peace;<sup>4</sup> its original jurisdiction was extended to be equal with that of the circuit court in all that class of cases cognizable by justices of the peace<sup>5</sup> and involving in controversy sums not exceeding \$500.<sup>6</sup> In 1906 however, it lost its naturalization jurisdiction since it failed to meet the additional requirements of Federal legislation that it possess jurisdiction at law without limitation upon amounts in controversy.<sup>7</sup> The present constitution, also, for the first time, directed the manner in which the General Assembly should establish judicial circuits, requiring that circuits be formed of contiguous counties and that they should not exceed in number one circuit for every one hundred thousand of population of the state.<sup>8</sup> At present there are eighteen circuits in Illinois, and St. Clair County is attached to the third circuit.<sup>9</sup>

Clerks of Courts

The clerk of the circuit court under the Constitution of 1818, was to be appointed by a majority of the justices of that court.<sup>10</sup> Since 1849, however, by provisions of the constitutions of 1848 and 1870, the office has been filled by election.<sup>11</sup> The office of clerk of the county court, which was an independent elective office under the second constitution,<sup>12</sup>

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1. L.1877, p. 79,80.
  2. L.1881, p. 72. In 1933 the Act of 1877 was further amended to make the establishment of an independent probate court mandatory in counties having a population of eighty-five thousand or more, and optional in counties having a population of between seventy thousand and eighty-five thousand. L.1933, p. 458.
  3. The population of St. Clair County in 1900 was 86,685. Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S.Census 1930, p. 9.
  4. L.1895, p. 212,223.
  5. The jurisdiction of justices has also been progressively increased during this period. See L.1871-72, p. 524; L.1895, p. 189,190; L.1917, p. 562,563; L.1929, p. 541,542.
  6. L.1871-72, p. 325.
  7. U.S.S. at Large, v.34, part 1, p. 596.
  8. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 13.
  9. L.1933, p. 435.
  10. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 6.
  11. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21,29; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
  12. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19.



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is now filled in an ex-officio capacity by the county clerk<sup>1</sup> who is also required by constitutional provision to be elected.<sup>2</sup> The county commissioners' court, which for a brief period held jurisdiction over probate matters, had its own clerk who was at that time appointed by the court.<sup>3</sup> Probate judges and justices of the peace who subsequently held probate jurisdiction, were required to act as their own clerks.<sup>4</sup> With the transfer of probate jurisdiction to the county court, the clerk of the county court was required to keep, separately, records of probate proceedings and business.<sup>5</sup> In St. Clair County a separate probate court was established in 1902 and a clerk of that court was elected.<sup>6</sup> Justices of the peace have always been required to keep their records in person.<sup>7</sup>

Ministerial Officers

The principal ministerial officer of all courts in record in Illinois counties is the sheriff. The first constitution provided that the sheriff could be elected;<sup>8</sup> bond in the sum of \$10,000 was required by the enabling law that established the office,<sup>9</sup> and for St. Clair County the requirement has not since been altered.<sup>10</sup> Statutory provision was made in 1827 for the appointment of deputies by the principal officer;<sup>11</sup> since 1870, the number of deputies that the sheriff may appoint is determined by rule of the circuit court.<sup>12</sup> The ministerial duties of the sheriff have undergone little change in more than one hundred years. Essentially he is to attend, in person or by deputy, all courts of record in the county, obeying the orders and directions of the court, and to serve, execute, and return all writs, warrants, process, orders, and decrees legally directed to him.<sup>13</sup>

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1. R.S.1874, p. 260.
  2. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
  3. L.1819, p. 175.
  4. L.1821, p. 119,120; R.L.1837, p. 177,178.
  5. L.1849, p. 66.
  6. L.1877, p. 82,83; L.1933, p. 460.
  7. L.1819, p. 185-97 (no specific record-keeping requirement listed among general duties of justices), 326 (establishing fees to be paid justices for keeping records); R.L.1827, p. 260 (becomes definite provision for justices to keep own records); L.1895, p. 221,222.
  8. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11. The sheriff in 1788 was appointed by the governor of the Northwest Territory. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 8. In 1807 when St. Clair County was a part of the Indiana Territory, the sheriff was appointed by the territorial governor. Laws of Indiana Territory, Law Series, II, 233. Later, in 1809, upon the organization of the Illinois Territory, he was appointed by the governor of the Territory. John Reynolds, Pioneer History of Illinois (2nd ed.; Chicago), p. 365.
  9. L.1819, p. 110.
  10. R.S.1874, p. 989.
  11. R.L.1827, p. 373.
  12. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
  13. L.1819, p. 111; R.S.1874, p. 990,991.

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The coroner was originally given equal power with the sheriff as a ministerial officer of the courts.<sup>1</sup> He was also required to serve all process in any suit in which the sheriff was an interested party<sup>2</sup> and to perform all the duties of the sheriff when that office was vacant.<sup>3</sup> The last two functions are still incumbent upon the coroner today.<sup>4</sup>

Justices of the peace are served similarly in a ministerial capacity by constables. Not until 1870 was the office of constable given constitutional recognition;<sup>5</sup> at its creation by the first General Assembly, the county commissioners' court was empowered to appoint one or more constables in each township;<sup>6</sup> in 1827 it was provided that two constables should be elected in each justice of the peace district.<sup>7</sup> Since that date, subsequent legislation has grouped justices of the peace and constables in all provisions regarding their election.<sup>8</sup> Constables, like sheriffs and coroners, have always been required to serve and execute all process legally directed to them;<sup>9</sup> process issuing from a justice of the peace court, however, may be directed only to some constable of the same county.<sup>10</sup>

Prosecutions

The duty of the present state's attorney to prosecute and defend all actions, civil or criminal, involving the county, the people, or officers of the state or county,<sup>11</sup> was incumbent during the first constitutional period upon the circuit attorney.<sup>12</sup> Also in effect from an early date is the officer's other major duty, apart from the enforcement of law,<sup>13</sup> of giving opinions on any questions of law relating to criminal or other

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1. L.1819, p. 111.
  2. L.1821, p. 20-23.
  3. R.L.1827, p. 372,373.
  4. R.S.1874, p. 282. Despite, however, the absence from the present law of statutory provision for the coroner to serve process originally directed to him (R.S.1874, p. 281,282), the courts have held that he may so do, an emergency being presumed to exist without need for the process to recite reason for its issuance to the coroner (20 Ill. 185; 57 Ill. 268).
  5. Constitution of 1870, Art. VII, sec. 21.
  6. L.1819, p. 162.
  7. R.L.1827, p. 258.
  8. See Courts, p. 88.
  9. L.1819, p. 162,163; R.S.1874, p. 400.
  10. L.1819, p. 186; R.S.1845, p. 317; L.1871-72, p. 525; L.1895, p. 191, 193; L.1937, p. 900. Similarly, process issuing from courts of record is required to be directed to the sheriff or, under certain conditions noted (n. 1, 2, and 3), to the coroner (R.S.1845, p. 413; L.1871-72, p. 338; R.S.1874, p. 774; L.1907, p. 444,445; L.1933, p. 786; L.1937, p. 989).
  11. R.S.1874, p. 173,174.
  12. L.1819, p. 204; R.S.1845, p. 76.
  13. See Enforcement of Law, p. 95.

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matters in which the people of the county may be concerned.<sup>1</sup>

The office of circuit attorney which existed solely by statutory provision,<sup>2</sup> was appointive by the Governor until 1835,<sup>3</sup> and thereafter by the General Assembly.<sup>4</sup> The second constitution replaced the circuit attorney with an elected state's attorney;<sup>5</sup> since each judicial circuit was an elective district for this purpose, the territorial jurisdiction of the new officer remained the same as that of the former officer.<sup>6</sup> Not until the present constitution was provision made for the election of a separate state's attorney in each county.<sup>7</sup> Bond has been required in the sum of \$5,000 since 1872.<sup>8</sup>

Inquests

The holding of inquests, one of the duties of the coroner in Illinois counties, is also a part of the administration of justice. The office of coroner was created by the first constitution and required to be filled by election;<sup>9</sup> the statutory provisions concerning the inquest function have not changed substantially since their enactment by the second General Assembly.<sup>10</sup> The coroner, when informed of the body of any person being found dead, supposedly by violence, casualty, or undue means, is required to summon a jury to inquire how, in what manner, and by whom or what, death was caused; testimony of witnesses is taken; witnesses whose evidence implicates any person as the unlawful slayer of the de-

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1. R.S.1845, p. 76; R.S.1874, p. 174.
  2. L.1819, p. 204-6. The functions of the office of state's attorney in St. Clair County were performed by a prosecuting attorney from 1814 to 1817 when he was replaced by a circuit attorney. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, I, 95. Laws of Illinois Territory 1817-1818, p. 54.
  3. L.1819, p. 204.
  4. L.1835, p. 44.
  5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21. The new title, however, had already come into occasional use in the interim (R.L.1827, p. 79; L.1835, p. 44; L.1847, p. 18).
  6. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 22.
  7. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22.
  8. L.1871-72, p. 189.
  9. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11. In 1788 the Governor of the Northwest Territory appointed a coroner for each county; St. Clair County was organized in 1790 and was a part of the Northwest Territory. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 24,25. From 1800 to 1809, the county was a part of Indiana Territory; during these years, the coroner was appointed by the territorial governor. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 252. When the Illinois Territory was organized in 1809, the coroner was appointed by the governor. John Reynolds, Pioneer History of Illinois, p. 365.
  10. Cf. L.1821, p. 22-24; R.S.1845, p. 517,518; R.S.1874, p. 282-84; R.S.1937, p. 780-82.



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ceased are bound over to the circuit court; the verdict of the jury is returned to the clerk of that court.<sup>1</sup> The verdict of the coroner's jury, however, is not generally admissible in evidence;<sup>2</sup> additionally, it is not held to be prima facie proof of matters stated therein with regard to the cause and manner of death;<sup>3</sup> its essential nature, therefore, is that of a finding of facts upon the basis of which the coroner may be led to discharge his collateral duty to apprehend and commit to jail any person implicated by the inquest as the unlawful slayer of the deceased.<sup>4</sup> To this extent, the coroner's inquest duties overlap his function as an officer for the enforcement of law.

Enforcement of Law

Sheriffs, coroners, and constables have always been charged equally with keeping the peace and apprehending all offenders against the law.<sup>5</sup> The state's attorney's powers as an officer for the enforcement of law originally derive by implication from another duty;<sup>6</sup> the gathering of evidence and the apprehension of offenders is necessarily involved in commencing and prosecuting actions in which the people of the state or county are concerned.<sup>7</sup> In relatively recent years, however, the state's attorney has been given more specific statutory powers to enforce laws and to investigate violations and secure necessary evidence thereof.<sup>8</sup> But at any time the effective spheres of authority of law enforcement officers have been determined less by statutory provisions than by local conditions and individual circumstances.

Education

The act of Congress providing for the creation and admission of the State of Illinois to the Union set aside section sixteen of every township for the use of schools.<sup>9</sup> The first state legislation on the subject was concerned only with the establishment of school districts and the sale or leasing of school land to provide necessary funds, for which purposes three trustees of school land were appointed in each township by the county commissioners' court.<sup>10</sup>

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1. L.1821, p. 24,25; R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 284.
  2. 46 N.W. 872. But it is proper practice to offer, in cross-examining witnesses sought to be impeached, excerpts from transcripts of testimony taken at the inquest (211 Ill. App. 474; 189 Ill. App. 556).
  3. 201 Ill. App. 287.
  4. L.1821, p. 25; R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 285.
  5. L.1819, p. 111,162,163; R.S.1845, p. 328,515; R.S.1874, p. 400,990.
  6. See Prosecutions, p. 93.
  7. Previously cited; see p. 93 n. 12.
  8. L.1885, p. 3; L.1907, p. 268; L.1913, p. 395; L.1915, p. 368; L.1927, p. 33.
  9. U.S.S. at Large, v. 3, p. 428.
  10. L.1819, p. 107,108.

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In 1825, however, with a common school system in operation, provision was made for its educational as well as financial administration. Three elected officers, known as township school trustees, were charged in each township with superintending schools, examining and employing teachers, leasing all land belonging to the district, and reporting annually to the county commissioners' court; this report, however, was limited to such matters as were concerned in the financial administration of the schools.<sup>1</sup> In 1827 the county commissioners' court was again empowered to appoint trustees of school lands, but despite the use of the earlier, more limited title, these officers were charged with all the duties of the former township school trustees.<sup>2</sup> The creation of office of county school commissioner in 1829 brought a new element into the complex situation. The commissioner was at first given limited duties with regard to the sale of school lands and the management of school funds;<sup>3</sup> his subsequent gains in this respect at the expense of the township trustees foreshadowed the demarcation of spheres of authority that were made in 1847.<sup>4</sup> In the interim, the school commissioner, who had first been appointed by the county commissioners' court,<sup>5</sup> became an elected officer;<sup>6</sup> in such townships as elected to incorporate for the purpose of organizing and supporting schools, township trustees also became elected officers and were there denominated trustees of schools.<sup>7</sup>

The situation created by the legislation of 1847 in certain respects has not since been substantially altered. In all counties, township trustees became, and are still, elected officers styled township school trustees.<sup>8</sup> The relative authority of the officer of the county<sup>9</sup> and of officers of the township with regard to financial administration was fixed essentially as at present.<sup>10</sup> Moreover, township trustees lost practically all their former duties with regard to matters purely educational as a result of a development that occurred in 1845.

It was at that time that the county first entered into the actual administration of education with the creation of the office of superintendent of schools.<sup>11</sup> Filled at first by the school commissioner in an

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1. L.1825, p. 121,122.
  2. R.L.1827, p. 366-70.
  3. R.L.1829, p. 150-54.
  4. Cf. L.1831, p. 176; L.1841, p. 275-79.
  5. R.L.1829, p. 150.
  6. L.1841, p. 261,262.
  7. L.1841, p. 273,274. In unincorporated townships, trustees continued to be appointed by the county commissioners' court (L.1841, p. 259, 260).
  8. L.1847, p. 126; L.1909, p. 350.
  9. The subsequent substitution of an independent elected superintendent of schools for the school commissioner who had additionally been ex-officio superintendent (see n. 1,3,4, p. 97), was only a change in the legal status of the officer of the county and had no further import.
  10. L.1847, p. 123,124,128,129; L.1909, p. 351-54; L.1927, p. 794,795.
  11. R.S.1845, p. 498.

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ex-officio capacity,<sup>1</sup> it quickly absorbed most of the functions of township trustees with regard to the advancement of education;<sup>2</sup> later, the office came to be filled by election<sup>3</sup> and completely absorbed that of school commissioner.<sup>4</sup> In the new field of county administration of education, the superintendent's duties remained constant through his change in legal status, requiring him to visit all the townships in his county and inquire into the condition and manner of conducting their schools, to examine persons proposing to teach school, to grant certificates to persons qualified to teach in schools, and to report to the county board on all his acts relating to the management of school funds and lands.<sup>5</sup> Subsequent legislation has enlarged the scope of this phase of the superintendent's functions, but it is in his role as an agent of state supervision that he has been charged with numerous duties of a new character.<sup>6</sup>

The authority of the state with regard to education, first manifested in 1845, has, like that of the county, been extended beyond its original bounds. Originally the county superintendent was required only to communicate to the state superintendent of common schools<sup>7</sup> information concerning the schools in his county.<sup>8</sup> Today, as a consequence of the state's increasing intervention in matters of public health and safety, the county superintendent is required to inspect, with regard to specifications, plans submitted to him for the heating, ventilation, lighting, etc., of public school rooms and buildings; to visit and notice such public school buildings which appear to him to be unsafe, insanitary, or otherwise unfit for occupancy; and to request the state board of health, the state fire marshal, or the state architect to inspect such buildings and issue reports upon which condemnation proceedings can be based.<sup>9</sup>

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1. R.S.1845, p. 498.
  2. Ibid., p. 497-503. Cf. L.1825, p. 121,122; R.L.1827, p. 366-70; L.1831, p. 173; L.1841, p. 270,275,276,279. The only duty of this category that was left to township trustees in the laws of 1847 concerned the examination of prospective teachers and the issuance of certificates where merited (L.1847, p. 130). It was omitted from the revised school law of 1851 (L.1851, p. 127).
  3. L.1865, p. 112.
  4. Ibid., p. 112,113.
  5. R.S.1845, p. 498,500,501. Cf. L.1847, p. 121-25; L.1857, p. 261-65, 278,279,296,297; L.1861, p. 190,191; L.1865, p. 114,119-21.
  6. L.1909, p. 345-50; L.1915, p. 636-38.
  7. The Secretary of State in ex-officio capacity (L.1845, p. 52). In 1854 the office became independent, filled by election, and known as that of superintendent of public instruction (L.1854, p. 13), which is its present status (L.1909, p. 343).
  8. L.1845, p. 54.
  9. L.1915, p. 637-40.



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Recordation

For the function of making legal record of written instruments, the first General Assembly of the state established the office of recorder.<sup>1</sup> Originally appointed by the Governor,<sup>2</sup> the recorder was required to be elected after 1853.<sup>3</sup> The second constitution made the clerk of the circuit court<sup>4</sup> ex-officio recorder in all counties;<sup>5</sup> the present constitution continues the earlier provision in counties of under sixty thousand population and provides for the election of a recorder in counties of that population or more.<sup>6</sup> St. Clair County met the population requirement in 1880 when a recorder was elected. Bond, originally set at \$1,500 in all counties,<sup>7</sup> is now required in the penalty sum of \$20,000 in those in the higher population bracket and \$10,000 in those where the office of recorder has not a separate incumbent.<sup>8</sup>

The basic duty of the recorder, to record at length and in the order of their receipt all instruments in writing, has remained essentially unchanged; legislation has been directed toward the extension of categories of instruments entitled to be recorded.<sup>9</sup> Conveyances of title to land, a major category of such records, frequently involve another county officer, the surveyor. Established by the General Assembly,<sup>10</sup> the office of surveyor was at first filled by appointment of that body,<sup>11</sup> later by election.<sup>12</sup> In 1936 the surveyor again became an appointed officer, with the power of appointment delegated to the county board.<sup>13</sup> His duty to perform all surveys he may be called on to make within his county has undergone only minor change, but its importance has declined; the acts of any surveyor, properly acknowledged and certified, have equal standing before the law with those of the county surveyor; no maps or plats have any legal effect unless recorded by the recorder.<sup>14</sup>

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1. L.1819, p. 18-20.
  2. Ibid., p. 18,19.
  3. L.1835, p. 166.
  4. An elected officer; see Clerks of Courts, p. 91.
  5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 64.
  6. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; R.S.1874, p. 833.
  7. L.1819, p. 19.
  8. R.S.1874, p. 833.
  9. R.L.1829, p. 117,118; R.L.1833, p. 511; R.S.1845, p. 305,432,606; L.1851, p. 80; L.1859, p. 124; L.1869, p. 2; R.S.1874, p. 833,834; L.1921, p. 756,757; L.1925, p. 520-22.
  10. L.1821, p. 62.
  11. Ibid.
  12. L.1835, p. 166.
  13. L.1933, p. 1104. Provision effective in 1936.
  14. R.L.1829, p. 173; R.L.1833, p. 511; L.1845, p. 201; L.1869, p. 241, 242; R.S.1874, p. 1050,1051; L.1901, p. 307,308; L.1915, p. 575.

Governmental Organization  
and Records System

Public Works

Roads and Bridges

Public roads and bridges were early under the superintendence of the county commissioners' court which was authorized to locate new roads and alter or vacate existing roads.<sup>1</sup> The act providing for such superintendence empowered the commissioners to appoint freeholders in each township to act as supervisors, each appointment to be for a one-year period. New roads were to be opened by the county commissioners' court upon petition of residents of the county and a favorable report from the road viewers and surveyor. A few years later the county commissioners were authorized to divide the county into road districts and to appoint annually one supervisor to serve in each district.<sup>2</sup> With a change in the county administrative body under the second constitution, the county court was granted supervision and control over public roads,<sup>3</sup> but the care and superintendence of roads and bridges in counties electing the township form of government, was granted to the commissioners of highways, elected in each town for one year.<sup>4</sup> The commissioners divided the town into road districts, and overseers of highways in each district were to repair the roads and carry out orders of the commissioners. In counties not electing the township form, the system of road districts was continued. The supervision, control, and maintenance of roads, highways, and bridges during the second constitutional period were vested in the county court and the road district supervisors.<sup>5</sup> In 1873 when the board of county commissioners supplanted the county court as the administrative body in St. Clair County, the commissioners were granted general supervision and control over roads and bridges,<sup>6</sup> while in each road district, three highway commissioners were elected for three-year terms.<sup>7</sup> St. Clair County did not adopt township organization until 1883. In 1913 the state highway department was established, and provision was made for the appointment by the county board of a county superintendent of highways.<sup>8</sup> The entire system was centralized by subject-

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1. L.1819, p. 333.

2. L.1825, p. 130.

3. L.1849, p. 65; L.1851, p. 179.

4. L.1849, p. 212.

5. L.1847, p. 111-13; L.1849, p. 65; L.1851, p. 149. One other change occurred in this phase of county administration in St. Clair County. During those years (1873-1883) when St. Clair was under the commission form of government, roads, highways, and bridges were cared for and maintained at the direction of three highway commissioners elected in each road district (L.1871-72, p. 679, 680; L.1873-74, p. 79).

6. L.1873-74, p. 79.

7. L.1871-72, p. 679.

8. L.1913, p. 521-25, 537-46.

Governmental Organization  
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ing the county superintendent to the rules and regulations of the state highway commissioner and by requiring candidates for county superintendent to be approved by the state commissioner before appointment by the county board. The term of the county superintendent was set at six years, and his salary was to be fixed by the county board. A board of highway commissioners was set up in each township to superintend matters relating to roads and bridges. Although the county superintendent was to act on behalf of the county in regard to roads and bridges, and although he was subject to removal by the county board, he was regarded as a deputy of the state highway engineer, subject to his directions. This indicates the intention of the legislature to unify the entire state system of roads and bridges. In 1917 the Department of Public Works and Buildings assumed the rights, powers, and duties vested in the state highway department,<sup>1</sup> but the county organization has remained essentially the same since 1913.

### Public Buildings

The county is given the power to hold, own, and convey real estate for county purposes.<sup>2</sup> This power is exercised by the county board which is charged with the care and custody of all the real and personal property owned by the county. Throughout the period of statehood it has been provided that a courthouse and jail be erected in each county, and that the sheriff of each county be charged with custody of such buildings.<sup>3</sup> The county is further empowered to erect buildings for a county hospital, workhouse, tuberculosis sanitarium, and other county needs.<sup>4</sup>

The county superintendent of schools is charged with the inspection of plans and specifications for public school rooms and buildings; and the approval of only those which comply with the specifications prepared by the state superintendent of public instruction.<sup>5</sup> He is also to request the state board of health, the state fire marshal, or the state architect to inspect public school buildings which appear to be unsafe, insanitary, or unfit for occupancy. Upon receipt of an unfavorable report from these officials, the county superintendent is to condemn the building and notify the board of directors or board of education, and the board of school trustees.

### Drainage

In 1850 an act of Congress provided for the granting of swamp and overflowed lands to various states.<sup>6</sup> The land so granted to Illinois was

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1. L.1917, p. 24.
  2. R.S.1874, p. 302.
  3. L.1619, p. 111; R.L.1827, p. 246,247,372; R.S.1874, p. 989.
  4. R.S.1874, p. 307; L.1909, p. 163; L.1911, p. 246.
  5. L.1915, p. 637-40.
  6. U.S.S. at Large, v. 9, p. 519.



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turned over to the counties in 1852 to be reclaimed by drainage and used for county purposes.<sup>1</sup> Such lands were to be under the care and superintendence of the county court which was to appoint a "Drainage Commissioner" to conduct the sales of such lands. The county surveyor was to prepare plats of the swamp lands and return such plats to the clerk of the county court, whereupon the court fixed the valuation upon each tract. The purchasers of these tracts were given a certificate by the drainage commissioner, and a deed was later executed by the county court. The court was to sell only enough swamp lands to insure reclamation of all such lands, any balance to be granted to the several townships to be used for educational purposes. At the discretion of the county, such balance could also be used for the construction of roads, bridges, or other public works.

In 1865 the commissioners of highways in each town became ex-officio boards of drainage commissioners.<sup>2</sup> Where a proposed drain ran through more than one town the commissioners of all the towns affected made up the board of drainage commissioners.<sup>3</sup> In 1879 drainage construction by special assessment was handled by the drainage commissioners, a body corporate and politic composed of commissioners of highways.<sup>4</sup>

Provision was first made for the organization of drainage districts for agricultural, sanitary, and mining purposes in 1879.<sup>5</sup> Petitions were to be filed with the county clerk and hearings on the same were to be had before the county court. When the court found in favor of the petitioners, it appointed three disinterested persons as commissioners to lay out and construct the work. Petitions for the construction of drains to cost less than \$5,000 were to be presented to justices of the peace, if the petitioners so elected, and the commissioners of highways were to perform the duties of drainage commissioners in such cases. In 1885 this law was amended to include drains costing less than \$2,000 and provided for the appointment of three residents as commissioners.<sup>6</sup>

## Public Services

### Public Health

The State Department of Public Health, created in 1917,<sup>7</sup> is charged with general supervision of the health and lives of the people of the state. In conformance with this legislative order it is empowered to supervise, aid, direct, and assist local health authorities or agencies

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1. L.1852, p. 178.
  2. L.1865, p. 50.
  3. L.1867, p. 91, 92.
  4. L.1879, p. 142.
  5. Ibid., p. 120.
  6. L.1885, p. 130, 131.
  7. L.1917, p. 4.

Governmental Organization  
and Records System

in the administration of the health laws. Public health districts may be organized along subcounty lines with a board of health in each. The names of such districts are to be filed with the county clerk to complete their organization. Annually, each board of health certifies to the county clerk the rate of a public health tax to be levied in each district, the clerk being responsible for setting out the proper taxes upon the warrant books and transmitting them to the collector as provided for in regard to other taxes.<sup>1</sup>

Control of the state health department over lodging houses, boarding houses, taverns, inns, and hotels is effected through the county clerk, the proprietors of such establishments being required to file with the clerk an annual statement containing details as to sleeping accommodations for guests.<sup>2</sup> The clerk is also required to report annually to the state health department the names and addresses of township officials.<sup>3</sup>

Mosquito abatement districts are organized upon petition to the county judge of the county in which such territory lies,<sup>4</sup> such petitions being filed with the county clerk. If, after hearing, the county judge determines that the organization of a district is necessary, the question is submitted to the residents of the territory at a special election. The judges of election make return to the county judge, and the results are entered upon the records of the county court. A majority of the votes favoring it, a mosquito abatement district is thereupon organized.

County officials also enter into the state's control of public swimming pools. When a representative of the State Department of Public Health finds conditions that warrant the closing of such a pool, the owner of the pool and the sheriff and state's attorney of the county are notified to that effect, it being the duty of these officers to enforce such notice.<sup>5</sup>

Vital Statistics

The State Department of Public Health has charge of the registration of births, stillbirths, and deaths throughout the state.<sup>6</sup> To effect proper control of this matter the state is divided into vital statistics registration districts which, in St. Clair County, are identical with the townships. The township clerk acts as the local registrar in these districts and receives certificates of births and deaths occurring in the district. Burial permits are issued by the registrar and are later returned to him for filing.

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1. L.1917, p. 27,28,763,765,767,768.

2. L.1901, p. 305.

3. L.1923, p. 480.

4. L.1927, p. 694.

5. L.1931, p. 735,736.

6. L.1915, p. 660-70.

Governmental Organization  
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The local registrar is required to deposit monthly with the county clerk a complete set of records of births, stillbirths, and deaths registered during the month, and the clerk is charged with binding and indexing, or recording, and safekeeping of such records. The original certificates are sent monthly by the local registrars to the state health department which certifies annually to the county clerk the number of births, stillbirths, and deaths registered in the county.

The county board is to appropriate money for the payment of the local registrars' fees. Such amounts are charges against the county, and the county clerk is required to issue warrants on the county treasurer for the amount of the fees payable to the registrars.

The county also enters into the enforcement phase of this matter. The state health department reports cases of violations of any provision of the act relating to registration to the state's attorney who is to initiate and follow up court proceedings against violators.

Public Assistance

Public assistance is administered through the services of the county department of public welfare, the county home and hospital, the blind examiner, the probation officers, the county clerk, and the county board.

The county department of public welfare is headed by a superintendent appointed by the county board after approval by the State Department of Public Welfare.<sup>1</sup> He assists the state department in the operation of welfare plans and policies within the county and has charge of the administration of old age assistance.<sup>2</sup> In this latter regard the county department acts merely as the agent of the state department, investigating applicants and reporting results.

The county home is an establishment for the maintenance and care of indigents. Its management and finances are provided by the county board.<sup>3</sup> Blind assistance is administered in the county through appropriations by the county board together with state funds. An examiner of the blind, appointed by the county board, examines all applicants referred to him by the county clerk.<sup>4</sup> The county court has jurisdiction in the administration of the mothers' pension fund. A probation officer, an appointee of the court for this purpose, investigates and visits cases of indigent mothers who are entitled to benefit.<sup>5</sup>

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1. L.1937, p. 451,452.

2. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 54-61; L.1937, p. 265-70.

3. L.1935, p. 1057.

4. L.1903, p. 138; L.1915, p. 256,257; L.1935, p. 264,265.

5. L.1913, p. 127-30; L.1915, p. 243-45; L.1921, p. 162-64; L.1935, p. 256-59.



Governmental Organization  
and Records System

Coordination of Functions

From the foregoing discussion of functions of the county government it is apparent that the county plays a dual role, that of a body politic and that of an agent of the state. In its first capacity the county, through its officials, is capable of suing and being sued, purchasing, holding, and selling property, making contracts, and raising revenue for its proper operation. As a state agent it fits into a state-wide program on various matters of public concern, acting under the supervision and control of the state and coordinating the activities of subcounty agencies and officials.

Coordination of county activities is effected chiefly through the county clerk. An illustration of this is the part this official plays in the election procedure. He notifies the judges and clerks of elections of their appointment, supplies them with blanks and poll books, receives copies of registers of voters, issues notices of election, receives and preserves returns, canvasses votes with the assistance of two justices of the peace and retains the abstracts, transmits copies of election returns and abstracts of votes to the Secretary of State, and issues certificates of election.

Records System

County records in the state of Illinois have suffered from the lack of an adequate program of legislation designed to secure uniformity in recordation and to insure the proper care of those documents which have permanent value. However, from the inception of statehood, some effort has been made to coordinate the records systems of the several counties and to preserve their archives.

In attempting to establish state-wide uniformity among counties, the General Assembly has at times provided detailed descriptions of required records and in many instances has supplied the very forms to be used. Laws relating to the duties and powers of county officers usually contained some such provisions. Thus, in 1819, the recorder of the county was ordered to supply "parchment or good large books, of royal or other large paper, well bound and covered" wherein to record all deeds and conveyances brought to him for that purpose. He was also to keep a fair book in which to enter every deed or writing to be recorded, noting the date, the parties, and the place where the lands were situated, such entries to be made according to priority of time.<sup>1</sup> In 1833 he was required to keep an alphabetical index to each book,<sup>2</sup> and by 1874 the General Assembly had prescribed a complete list of books to be kept in the office of the recorder, with a description of the contents of each, which list has been continued, substantially unchanged, to the present.<sup>3</sup>

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1. L.1819, p. 18,20.

2. R.L.1833, p. 511.

3. R.S.1874, p. 834.

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In like manner, legislation was enacted prescribing records to be kept by the county clerk and his predecessors, acting in their several capacities,<sup>1</sup> the clerk of the circuit court,<sup>2</sup> the judge<sup>3</sup> and justice of the probate court,<sup>4</sup> the coroner,<sup>5</sup> the county superintendent of schools,<sup>6</sup> the county surveyor,<sup>7</sup> and the county treasurer.<sup>8</sup>

Descriptions of records and forms to be used are frequently found in legislation pertaining to the holding of elections,<sup>9</sup> assessments and the collection of revenue,<sup>10</sup> the organization and maintenance of common schools,<sup>11</sup> the registration of marriage<sup>12</sup> and the recording of vital statistics.<sup>13</sup>

While there has been enacted much legislation prescribing the kind of records to be kept, only a few laws deal with the vital subject of the safeguarding and preservation of county archives. In 1819 the General Assembly directed the clerks of the circuit and county commissioners' courts to provide "a safe press or presses with locks and keys for the safe-keeping of the archives of their offices . . ."<sup>14</sup> In 1843 the county commissioners' courts were authorized, and required whenever the finances of the county would justify the expenditure, to erect a fireproof recorder's office at the county seat, or if the commissioners were of the opinion that any unappropriated room in their court houses could be made fireproof, to make it so and house the office and records of the recorder there.<sup>15</sup> At

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1. L.1849, p. 66,191,203; L.1859, p. 92,94; L.1865, p. 93; R.S.1874, p. 261-65,332; L.1933, p. 203,204.
  2. R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 147; L.1847, p. 70; L.1849, p. 9; L.1865, p. 93; R.S.1874, p. 262,263; L.1933, p. 293,294.
  3. R.L.1839, p. 231.
  4. R.S.1845, p. 427,428.
  5. R.L.1833, p. 574; L.1869, p. 104,105; R.S.1874, p. 283.
  6. L.1849, p. 155,156; L.1865, p. 119; L.1909, p. 346,348,349.
  7. R.L.1829, p. 173; R.S.1845, p. 524.
  8. R.S.1845, p. 138; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
  9. L.1819, p. 92,94; R.L.1827, p. 291,292; R.L.1829, p. 59,60; L.1845, p. 41,42; L.1849, p. 73,74; L.1865, p. 54,55; L.1871-72, p. 386-89, 391; L.1885, p. 143,148,173,176; L.1937, p. 522-29,531-48.
  10. R.L.1827, p. 329-33; L.1838-39, p. 4,5,7,8,12,13,17; L.1845, p. 6-9, 12,14,15; L.1849, p. 37,38,124-26,128; L.1851, p. 53,55,56; L.1853, p. 17,24,50,55,77,78,111,112; L.1871-72, p. 19,23,32,48,49,54.
  11. L.1825, p. 127; R.L.1833, p. 563; L.1841, p. 263,270-72; L.1845, p. 53, 54,65,68; L.1847, p. 121-23,142-44; R.S.1874, p. 950,957,958,964.
  12. L.1819, p. 27; R.L.1827, p. 288,289; R.S.1874, p. 694,695.
  13. L.1842-43, p. 210-12; L.1877, p. 209; L.1901, p. 301-4; L.1903, p. 315, 317,318; L.1915, p. 667.
  14. L.1819, p. 332.
  15. L.1842-43, p. 210.

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the discretion of the county commissioners' courts, the provisions of this act might be deemed to apply to the offices of the clerks of the circuit and county commissioners' courts. Similar in content but slightly different in wording is a later enactment in which the county commissioners' courts were authorized to "erect, build, and provide permanent fireproof rooms, houses or vaults, for the purpose of placing therein and preserving from injury, damage, loss, or destruction by fire, the records and documents of their respective counties."<sup>1</sup> The preservation of county archives has been greatly aided by an act to provide for the copying of old, worn-out records,<sup>2</sup> and by a law authorizing the transfer of county records having historic value to the Illinois State Historical Library at Urbana. Provision is made in this act for the substitution of accurate copies of these documents if such action be deemed necessary.<sup>3</sup> In 1907 the act was amended to include among the institutions to which old records might be sent, the Illinois State Historical Society and the State University Library at Urbana.<sup>4</sup> Laws providing for the restoration of certain classes of records which have been destroyed by fire or other means have also been passed.<sup>5</sup> In 1935 the General Assembly appropriated money for the construction of a fireproof building at Springfield for the purpose of storing therein the archives and records of the state.<sup>6</sup> The erection of this structure, the State Archives Building, has helped to make possible the inauguration of an intelligent, far-sighted program for the preservation of papers and documents of historic value.

There are still serious omissions in legislation pertaining to recordation. For instance, Illinois has no law prescribing the kinds of inks to be used in keeping records. And, although laws have been enacted authorizing the provision of fireproof accommodations for county documents, they are permissive rather than mandatory in character.<sup>7</sup> Legislation enabling the destruction of worthless archives apparently is nonexistent with the exception of laws relating to certain election papers.<sup>8</sup>

The enactment of legislation which would remedy these defects in the laws and continue the trend toward state-wide uniformity among counties would result in an intelligent, economical records system for the State of Illinois.

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1. L.1845, p. 46.
  2. L.1871-72, p. 648.
  3. L.1897, p. 205.
  4. L.1907, p. 375.
  5. L.1871-72, p. 649, 650, 652.
  6. L.1935, p. 138.
  7. L.1842-43, p. 210; L.1845, p. 46.
  8. L.1861, p. 269; L.1871-72, p. 389; L.1885, p. 145, 193; L.1891, p. 118, 119; L.1917, p. 438, 444, 445; L.1937, p. 525, 526.







### 3. ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICERS\*

(Date after name of officer refers to date of commission, unless otherwise stated)

#### Judges and Justices of the Territorial Courts

Administration of county business during the period from 1790, the year St. Clair was established, to 1818, when Illinois was admitted to the Union, was lodged in certain county courts instituted in the Northwest, Indiana, and Illinois territories. From 1790 to 1806 the court of general quarter sessions of the peace had, by laws drawn up, the power to administer general county affairs.<sup>1</sup> A court of common pleas set up at the same time as the court of general quarter sessions also was given power to initiate certain county business which, however, had to be submitted to the court of quarter sessions. The same justices, in several instances, served on both courts. In 1795, an orphans' court was ordered by law to be held by the justices of the court of quarter sessions. The extant records of the administrative courts up to 1806 are scanty.<sup>2</sup> The first notation of the handling of county business found is in the record volume<sup>3</sup> of the orphans' court in 1806<sup>4</sup> after this court had been merged into the court of common pleas by a law passed in 1805 and effective in 1806 which gave to the court of common pleas all those powers formerly vested in the separate courts of common pleas, quarter sessions, and the orphans' court.<sup>5</sup>

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\* This list was compiled from the following sources:

- A. Secretary of State. Index Department, Election Returns. Returns from County Clerk to Secretary of State. 1809-47, 78 volumes (1-78), third tier, bay 1; 1848-- , 53 file drawers (2-54), third tier, bay 2, State Archives Building, Springfield, Illinois.
- B. Secretary of State. Executive Department, Certificates of Qualification. 1819-- , 22 file drawers (1-22), fourth tier, bay 5, State Archives Building, Springfield, Illinois.
- C.(1) Secretary of State. Executive Department Official Records. List of Commissions Issued to County Officers. 1809-1918, 5 volumes, fourth tier, bay 6, State Archives Building, Springfield, Illinois.
- (2) Secretary of State. Executive Department Official Records. List of Commissions Issued to County Officers. 1869-- , 4 volumes, room 208, second floor, Secretary of State's Office, Executive Department, State Capitol Building, Springfield, Illinois.

- 1. See Historical Sketch, p. 47, 58; General Administration, p. 81.
- 2. Those preserved are in the Perrin Collection; see appendix M, this Inventory, p. 295. Those records are too fragile for examination.
- 3. See entry 223, p. 211.
- 4. County Record, v. 1, p. 31.
- 5. See Historical Sketch, p. 58; General Administration, p. 81.



## Roster of County Officers

After 1805 the consolidated court of common pleas administered county business until 1814, when the county court was established to function in place of the common pleas court. In 1818 a justices' court succeeded the county court. In 1819, the county commissioners' court succeeded the justices' court. The justices of the various courts held in St. Clair County, from 1790 to 1818, are listed with citations to county, state, and secondary records. List shows all judges and justices serving at one or more court terms or sessions during each separate year.

### Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace

John Edgar, Philippe Engle,  
Antoine Girardin, Antoine Louviere,  
1790<sup>1</sup>

William Biggs, George Atchison,  
Jean Perrey, Nicholas Jarrot,  
John Dumoulin, 1802<sup>6</sup>

John Dumoulin, Shadrach Bond,  
George Atchison, James Lemmon,  
1798<sup>2</sup>

George Atchison, James Lemon,  
J. F. Perrey, Nicholas Jarrot,  
Shadrach Bond, Wil. Whiteside,  
William Whiteside, 1803<sup>7</sup>

John Dumoulin, James Piggott,  
George Atchison, Shadrach Bond,  
1799<sup>3</sup>

George Atchison, William Whiteside,  
Wil. Whiteside, J. Francois Perrey,  
Nicholas Jarrot, Shadrach Bond,  
J. Lemen, William Biggs, 1804<sup>8</sup>

John Dumoulin, George Atchison,  
Wm. Biggs, James Lemen, 1800<sup>4</sup>

George Atchison, William Biggs,  
Jean Perrey, William Whiteside,  
Wil. Whiteside, David Badgely,  
James Lemen, James Bankson, 1805<sup>9</sup>

John Dumoulin, George Atchison,  
Wm. Biggs, Jean M. Perrey, 1801<sup>5</sup>

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1. The St. Clair Papers, ed. William Henry Smith (Cincinnati: Robert Clarke and Co., 1882), II, 165n.1. Judges appointed to the court of common please were Jean Baptiste Barbeau, Antoine Girardin, Philippe Engle, and Jean Dumoulin.
  2. County Record, v. 1, p. 7,8.
  3. Ibid., p. 9,10.
  4. Ibid., p. 12,13.
  5. Ibid., p. 14,15.
  6. Ibid., p. 16.
  7. Ibid., p. 18,20.
  8. Ibid., p. 21,23.
  9. Ibid., p. 25,27,28.

Roster of County Officers

County Court of Common Pleas

Shadrach Bond, J. F. Perrey,  
Thos. Kirkpatrick, 1806<sup>1</sup>  
1807,<sup>2</sup> 1808,<sup>3</sup> 1809<sup>4</sup>

Nicholas Jarrot, Sam L. Kennedy,  
Wil. Whiteside, George Caldwell,  
John Finlay, Jacob A. Boyes,  
Robert Elliott, John G. Lafton,  
1809<sup>5</sup>

Nicholas Jarrot, John G. Lafton,  
Geo. Caldwell, Robert Elliott,  
Wil. Whiteside, William Scott,  
Enoch Moore, John Thomas, Jun.,

Wm. Gilham, Freeman Tuttle,  
John Hay, 1810<sup>6</sup>

John Thomas, Jr., William Biggs,  
Jean F. Perrey, 1811<sup>7</sup>

No county records 1812

John Thomas, Jr., William Biggs,  
1813<sup>8</sup>

John Thomas, William Biggs,  
Caldwell Cairns 1814<sup>9</sup>

County Court

John Thomas, William Biggs,  
Caldwell Cairns, 1814,<sup>10</sup>  
1815<sup>11</sup>

Wm. Biggs, Risdon Moore,  
Benj. Watts, 1816,<sup>12</sup>  
1817<sup>13</sup>

Justices' Court

John Hay, Peter Mitchell,  
Henry Walker, Jacob Ogle, Jr.,  
Thomas Cohen, Abel Fike,  
Thomas Gillham, 1818<sup>14</sup>

Thomas Cohen, Edmund P. Wilkinson,  
Abel Fike, Jacob Ogle,  
Abraham Badgley, 1819<sup>15</sup>

- 
1. County Record, v. 1, p. 28.
  2. Ibid., p. 32.
  3. Ibid., p. 43.
  4. Ibid., p. 47.
  5. Ibid., p. 50A, 50B, 55. First justices recorded in 1809 after Illinois Territory was established.
  6. Ibid., p. 61, 69, 71, 73, 76.
  7. Ibid., p. 79, 84.
  8. Ibid., p. 85.
  9. Ibid., p. 94.
  10. Ibid., p. 119.
  11. Ibid., p. 140.
  12. Ibid., p. 186.
  13. Ibid., p. 196.
  14. Ibid., v. 2, p. 59, 67, 74.
  15. Ibid., p. 79.

Roster of County Officers

County Commissioners\*

(Subsequent to 1849, county commissioners' court replaced by county court consisting of county judge and two associate justices, until 1873 when a board of county commissioners replaced the county court; in 1883 the county board of supervisors assumed administration of county business, this form of government continuing to date)

No state records, 1819 <sup>1</sup>	William Moore, Abel Fike,
Jacob Ogle, Edmund P. Wilkinson,	Abraham Badgley, August 2, 1830
Joseph Trotier, August 7, 1820	John Murray, Abraham Badgley,
William Rutherford, James Tannehill,	James Anderson, August 6, 1832
John Morrison, August 5, 1822	James Anderson, John Murray,
John Stountz, William Rutherford,	Benjamin J. Smith,
Abel Fike, August 2, 1824	August 4, 1834
J. Meddlecoff, John Stountz,	Benjamin J. Smith, William G. Goforth,
Abel Fike, August 7, 1826	George Temple, <sup>2</sup> August 1, 1836
John Meddlecoff, John Stountz,	Michael Felps, <sup>3</sup> Samuel Ogle,
Peter Mitchell, August 4, 1828	Jacob Eyman, August 7, 1838

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- \* All dates shown after commissioners' names indicate the year elected. By a law passed in 1837, the three commissioners elected in 1838 drew lots for one, two, and three years to determine their length of term. Subsequently, one commissioner was elected each year to serve a three-year term, this procedure continuing until December, 1849, when the commissioners were succeeded by the county judge and two associate justices as the administrators of county business.
1. County records show Cornelius Gooding, Edmund P. Wilkinson, and Clayton Tiffin as first commissioners, present at first meeting of county commissioners' court held June 7, 1819. County Record, v. 2, p. 81.
  2. At a special term of the county commissioners' court October 2, 1837, ordered that an election be held November 20 next for one county commissioner to fill vacancy occasioned by removal of George Temple from the state. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 5, p. 4. At the regular December term, 1837, Michael Felps was recorded as the new commissioner. Ibid., p. 6.
  3. Samuel Ogle, E. G. Potter, and Jacob Eyman recorded September 3, 1838, as commissioners having been elected August 6, 1838; upon drawing lots, E. G. Potter drew the three-year term, Samuel Ogle the two-year term, and Jacob Eyman the one-year term. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 5, p. 63.



Roster of County Officers

County Commissioners (cont.)

James Glass,	Frederick C. Horn,
August 3, 1840 <sup>1</sup>	November 14, 1874 (expires
Richard Bradsby,	November, 1877)
August 2, 1841	Francis Poignee,
David T. Moore,	November 16, 1875
August 1, 1842	Henry Barthel,
Simm Stuckey, <sup>2</sup>	November 16, 1876
August 7, 1843	Frederick C. Horn,
Ausby Fike,	December 1, 1877
August 4, 1845	Francis Poignee,
John Irwin,	March 15, 1878
August 3, 1846	Henry Barthel,
Abraham Badgley,	November 12, 1879 (declared
August 2, 1847	void)
Ausby Fike,	Louis Plondre,
August 11, 1848	March 31, 1880
Joseph Voile, Augustus Chenot,	Charles H. Fietsam,
Frederick C. Horn,	December 1, 1880
November 4, 1873	Henry J. Decker,
Charles L. Emerich,	November 29, 1881
January 16, 1874 (expires	Louis Plondre,
November, 1876)	December 1, 1882
	Charles Fietsam,
	November 17, 1883

County Judges

Nathaniel Niles,	Fredrick H. Pieper (vice Hughes,
November 19, 1849,	deceased),
November 30, 1853,	December 29, 1869,
November 28, 1857	November 15, 1873,
John D. Hughes,	December 1, 1877
November 21, 1861,	
November 20, 1865	

- 
1. "James Glass presented his certificate of election as Judge of the County Commissioners' Court for the ensuing three years from this term . . . " September 7, 1840. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 5, p. 202. Jacob Eyman, E. G. Potter, and James Glass shown as commissioners September 9, 1840 (ibid., p. 210); this does not conform to terms drawn as shown in footnote 3, p. 112, as Eyman should have been replaced by Glass. No explanation found. James T. Dorrell presented certificate of election, December 4, 1841, vice Glass, resigned. Ibid., p. 304.
  2. Simon Stookey presented certificate of election December 5, 1842, vice Dorrell, resigned. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 5, p. 374.

# Roster of County Officers

## County Judges (cont.)

William J. Underwood,	November 26, 1910
December 1, 1882	Joseph B. Messick,
John B. Hay,	November 19, 1914,
December 6, 1886	November 23, 1918,
Benjamin Bonean,	November 28, 1922
November 28, 1890	W. R. Webber,
Edward C. Rhoads,	November 17, 1924,
November 24, 1894	November 18, 1926
Frank Perrin,	Paul Farthing,
November 15, 1898	November 18, 1930
John B. Hay,	Joseph E. Fleming,
November 19, 1902,	November 16, 1934
November 19, 1906,	

## Associate Justices

Samuel M. Thrift, Abraham Badgeley,	James M. Whitaker, John Thomas,
November 8, 1849	November 28, 1857
Ausby Fike, C. W. Schoeck,	Charles M. Emmerich, William Kraft,
November 10, 1853	November 29, 1861,
John Thomas,	November 7, 1865 (elected)
November 16, 1855	Charles L. Emmerich, Joseph Veile,
	November 11, 1869

Judges of Probate, Probate Justices of the Peace, and Probate Judges  
(In 1837 the probate justice takes the place of the judge of  
probate until 1849 when he is succeeded by the county judge  
as ex-officio judge of the probate court to 1902 when  
separate office of probate judge was established)

Edmund P. Wilkinson, <sup>1</sup>	November 19, 1906,
February 12, 1821	November 26, 1910,
John Hay,	November 19, 1914,
February 17, 1823,	November 23, 1918,
January 18, 1825,	November 28, 1922
December 18, 1837, <sup>2</sup>	C. E. Chamberlin,
August 31, 1839	May 5, 1926
John D. Hughes,	(appointed),
November 25, 1842,	November 18, 1926
August 22, 1843,	Joseph E. Fleming,
August 18, 1847	November 18, 1930
Frank Perrin,	Paul H. Reis,
November 19, 1902,	November 15, 1934

- 
1. The first judge of probate appointed by Governor St. Clair, in 1790, was Barthelemi Tardiveau. The St. Clair Papers, ed. Smith, II, 165n.1. William St. Clair appointed judge of probate, September 28, 1795. The Centennial History of Illinois, ed. Clarence Walworth Alvord, (Springfield, 1920), I, 404n.10. Records do not show names of succeeding judges.
  2. Elected probate justice of the peace, by provision of law, L.1836-37, p. 176.

## Roster of County Officers

### County Board of Supervisors

The several township supervisors, one elected from each township, together with any additional and assistant supervisors elected upon proportional representation, make up the membership of the county board of supervisors. Because these supervisors severally, are township officials and only as a group constitute the county board, they are not commissioned by the state as county officers, and no data concerning them from which a list could be compiled, are kept by the state.

At the general election held November 6, 1883, the electorate voted in favor of township organization, and the board of county commissioners, at their December meeting, appointed Philip H. Postel, Sr., Henry Barthel, and Joseph P. Messick commissioners to divide the county into townships.<sup>1</sup> Their report, which bounded and named nineteen townships, was submitted to the board at the February, 1884, meeting.<sup>2</sup> The first meeting of the board of supervisors was held in the courthouse at Belleville on Monday, April 21, 1884. Those present and the townships represented were as follows:<sup>3</sup>

Supervisors	Township
J. H. Kochmann	Stookey
Jacob Young	Sugar Loaf
George Cajacal	Millstadt
James W. Stewart	Marissa
Peter J. Dreher	Lenzburg
Conrad Purgard	Fayetteville
George Darmstaetler	New Athens
Josiah P. Hill	Prairie Du Long
Peter Seibert	Englemann
Henry Barthel	Freeburg
Henry Phillips	Smithton
Risdon A. Moore	Shiloh Valley
David Chartraud	Centreville Station
William P. Begole	Caseyville
Samuel C. Smiley	O'Fallon
John Reimann	Lebanon
Frank Perrine, Fred E. Richter	Mascoutah
(Eugene Halloran, John W. Renshaw, )	
(T. J. Canty, Phillip Lynch )	East Saint Louis
(Dow Turner, Edward Abend, )	
(William Albrecht, Adolph Miller, )	Belleville
(E. Miller, John Gross )	

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1. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. G, p. 373.

2. Ibid., p. 379.

3. Ibid., p. 418. Canteen, St. Clair, and Stites townships have since been organized. Centreville Station appears today as Centerville.



# Roster of County Officers

## County Clerks

(Clerks of the county boards and of the county courts in their various forms)

John Hay, <sup>1</sup>		Sebastian Fietsam,	
June	17, 1809,	November 11,	1869
January	23, 1811,	Louis C. Starkel,	
December	24, 1814,	November 15,	1873,
January	11, 1816	December 1,	1877
Robert K. McLaughlin, <sup>2</sup>		Philip Rheim,	
January	10, 1818	December 1,	1882,
John Hay (vice McLaughlin, resigned),		December 6,	1886,
May	27, 1818	December 2,	1890
William A. C. Comstock,		Geo. K. Thomas,	
August	7, 1843 (elected),	November 21,	1894,
August	2, 1847 "	December 2,	1898,
John Scheel,		November 24,	1902
November	19, 1849,	Ernest Hilgard,	
November	30, 1853	June	18, 1906
W. W. Roman,		Alonzo A. Miller,	
November	28, 1857	November 28,	1906
Bernhard Wick,		E. F. Winkler,	
November	29, 1861,	November 30,	1910,
November	20, 1865	December 1,	1914

- 
1. William St. Clair was appointed prothonotary and clerk of the court of common pleas in the Spring of 1790 (The St. Clair Papers, ed. Smith II, 165n.1) and resigned late in the year of 1794. William Arundel was appointed clerk to succeed William St. Clair (see Historical Sketch, p. 50). At a meeting of the court May 9, 1799 "William Arundel Esq. late clerk of the orphans' court gave up all papers thereunto concerning according to the Receipt given him by John Hay." County Record, v. 1, p. 11. County records show John Hay served continuously from this date as clerk of the orphans' and successive courts, until January 22, 1817, when Robert McLaughlin presented his commission as clerk of the county court. Ibid., p. 189. Hay again became clerk of the court May 27, 1818, in place of McLaughlin, resigned, and served continuously until his resignation August 22, 1836, when Richard Randle was appointed in his place. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 4, p. 266. James M. Charles presented his certificate of election as clerk at the September term, 1837, *ibid.*, p. 322, resigning September 5, 1838, on which date Lewis Morris was appointed clerk *protem* until a special election ordered held November 3, 1838, for the election of a clerk. Ibid., v. 5, p. 73. James M. Reynolds presented his certificate of election December 3, 1838, *ibid.*, p. 78, and served continuously until his death in 1843. Wm. McClintock was appointed clerk *protem* in his place July 3, 1843. Ibid., p. 428.
  2. January 22, 1817, Robert McLaughlin produced his commission from the Governor as clerk of the county court. County Record, v. 1, p. 189.

Roster of County Officers

County Clerks (cont.)

A. J. Hoby Hoerr,  
November 23, 1918,  
November 28, 1922  
Lillian B. Hoerr,  
May 2, 1926  
(appointed)

Ross C. Adams,  
November 26, 1926  
D. A. (Doc.) Prindable,  
November 24, 1930,  
December 1, 1934  
Oscar L. Becker,<sup>1</sup>

Probate Clerks

(County clerk served, ex officio, as probate clerk  
prior to establishment of separate probate court)

Adolph Andel,  
November 22, 1902  
Ernest Hilgard,  
June 18, 1906  
Logan P. Mellon,  
November 23, 1906,  
December 6, 1910

Alonzo A. Miller,  
November 19, 1914,  
November 23, 1918,  
November 28, 1922,  
November 26, 1926  
William Frech,  
November 26, 1930  
Leonard O. Reinhardt,  
December 1, 1934

Recorders

(In 1849 the circuit clerk became ex-officio recorder  
to 1880 when a separate office of recorder  
was again established)

John Hay,<sup>2</sup>  
July 25, 1809,  
March 17, 1819,  
August 13, 1835  
Richard Hay,  
November 14, 1842,  
August 18, 1843,  
August 18, 1847  
James A. Willoughby,  
December 1, 1880  
Dennis J. Canty,  
November 30, 1884  
Peter W. Lill,  
December 3, 1888  
Charles Becker,  
November 22, 1892  
George O. Stuntz,  
December 7, 1896

Charles Hoefele,  
November 30, 1900  
Herman B. Roewe,  
November 29, 1904  
William Metzger,  
November 18, 1908  
C. A. Summers,  
November 29, 1912,  
December 2, 1916  
Otto Wiebert,  
December 2, 1920,  
November 28, 1924  
Walter Flannigan,  
November 27, 1928,  
December 1, 1932,  
December 11, 1936

- 
1. Shown as county clerk in Official List of State and County Officers July 1, 1939, compiled by Edward J. Hughes, Secretary of State, p. 47.
  2. William St. Clair was appointed first recorder by Governor Arthur St. Clair, May 7, 1790. The St. Clair Papers, ed. Smith, II, 166n. Records do not show names of succeeding recorders to 1809.

# Roster of County Officers

## Circuit Court Clerks

(Prior to 1848, circuit clerk appointed by circuit judge)

Theodore Englemann, September 4, 1848 (elected)	Edward J. Scott, December 3, 1888
William S. Thomas, November 23, 1852, November 14, 1856	Thomas May, Jr., November 22, 1892, December 7, 1896, November 30, 1900
F. C. Karsch, November 28, 1860	O. E. Chamberlin, November 29, 1904
Benjamin Bonean (vice Karsch, deceased), November 21, 1861	Smith Myers, November 28, 1908
Henry Kircher, November 19, 1864	John F. O'Flaherty, November 29, 1912, December 2, 1916
George M. Roeder, November 17, 1868	Frank Mundlock, December 2, 1920, November 28, 1924
Charles Becker, November 19, 1872, November 25, 1876	Charles H. Becker, November 22, 1928, December 1, 1932, December 1, 1936
George H. Stolberg, December 1, 1880	
Fredrick E. Scheel, November 20, 1884	

## Sheriffs

(The sheriff, at various times, served also as collector and treasurer. See pages 86, 87, 247, 251, 256, this Inventory)

Geo. Hays, <sup>1</sup> May 3, 1809	Charles Sargent, August 9, 1836
William A. Beaird, <sup>2</sup> August 28, 1820, August 31, 1822, August 17, 1824, September 1, 1826, September 30, 1828	Samuel Chandler, August 21, 1838, November 24, 1840, August 15, 1842, August 27, 1844
John D. Hughes, August 12, 1830, August 8, 1832	David W. Hopkins, August 28, 1846, August 29, 1848
John Claypole, August 14, 1834	John Irwin, November 13, 1850
	Thomas Challenor, November 23, 1852

1. On the first day of the July term, 1809, common pleas court, "John Hays produced his commission of sheriff of this county of St. Clair and was duly sworn in open court." County Record, v. 1, p. 50. The first sheriff, William Biggs, was appointed by Governor St. Clair, April 29, 1790. The St. Clair Papers, ed. Smith, II, 165n.1.
2. Wm. A. Beard recorded as sheriff at first meeting of county commissioners' court June 7, 1819. County Court Record, v. 2, p. 81.



Roster of County Officers

Sheriffs (cont.)

John Galbraith,	Jefferson D. Langley
November 14, 1854	(vice Dawson, deceased),
George C. Hart,	April 14, 1893
November 14, 1856	Fredrick S. Weckler,
Fredrick Mayer,	November 24, 1894
November 20, 1858	Philip Rhein,
Ed. H. Fleming,	October 11, 1895
November 28, 1860	Herman Barnickol,
John Galbraith,	November 30, 1898
November 28, 1862	John Kickham,
Fredrick Ropiequet,	April 14, 1900
November 19, 1864	George Washington Thompson,
Charles Becker,	November 22, 1902
November 14, 1866	Charles P. Cashell,
James M. Stookey,	November 23, 1906
November 20, 1868	William J. Mulconnery,
James W. Hughes,	November 26, 1910
November 29, 1870,	Logan P. Mellon
November 27, 1872	November 19, 1914
Herman G. Weber,	Ed. P. Petrie,
November 14, 1874,	November 23, 1918
November 16, 1876,	Martin Schnipper (vice Petrie),
December 2, 1878	September 13, 1921,
Fredrick Ropiequet,	November 28, 1922
December 1, 1880,	Charles Aherns,
December 1, 1882	November 16, 1926
John Ragland,	Jerome Munie,
December 6, 1886	November 18, 1930
Alfred L. Dawson,	Henry L. Siekmann,
December 2, 1890	November 30, 1934
	D. A. Prindable, <sup>1</sup>

Coroners

Enoch Moore, <sup>2</sup>	Lewis M. Meyers,
May 3, 1809	August 17, 1824
Samuel Redman,	John Pulliam,
September 25, 1816	September 1, 1826,
Job Badgely,	August 18, 1828
March 14, 1820	Jacob Eyman,
Samuel Redman,	October 21, 1829
August 28, 1820	Abraham Eyman,
William G. Brown,	August 12, 1830
August 31, 1822	

- 
1. Shown as sheriff in Official List of State and County Officers July 1, 1939, p. 47.
  2. John Whiteside recorded as coroner March term, 1808. County Record, v. 1, p. 37. The first coroner, Charles Le Ferre, was appointed by Governor St. Clair, April 29, 1790. The St. Clair Papers, ed. Smith, II, 165n.1.

Roster of County Officers

Coroners (cont.)

Jacob Eyman,  
September 5, 1832  
Samuel Philips,  
August 14, 1834  
Moses Stookey,  
August 9, 1836,  
August 23, 1838  
Alex Reaney,  
August 18, 1840  
Thomas Wood,  
August 8, 1842  
John D. Hughes,  
August 14, 1844  
Michael I. Gannon,  
August 5, 1844 (elected)  
August 28, 1846,  
August 23, 1848  
James Scott,  
November 13, 1850,  
November 23, 1852,  
November 14, 1854  
William Kelly,  
November 14, 1856,  
November 30, 1858  
Theodore Joerge,  
November 28, 1860,  
November 4, 1862 (elected)  
David Miley,  
November 25, 1864  
Gustav Wetzlan,  
November 14, 1866  
David Miley,  
June 21, 1867  
Theodore Joerge,  
November 20, 1868,  
November 8, 1870 (elected)

John N. Ryan,  
December 3, 1872  
Philip Schildroth,  
November 14, 1874  
Timothy Cauty,  
November 16, 1876  
John Bader,  
December 2, 1878,  
December 1, 1880,  
December 1, 1882  
Alexander Woods,  
December 1, 1884,  
December 6, 1886,  
November 6, 1888  
Joseph M. Campbell,  
December 22, 1892  
Henry T. Schildroth,  
December 1, 1896  
Robert X. McCracken,  
November 30, 1900  
Ed. M. Irwin,  
November 29, 1904  
Benjamin E. Twitchell,  
November 27, 1908  
C. P. Renner,  
November 25, 1912,  
December 23, 1916  
R. F. Barker,  
December 2, 1920  
Dr. J. H. Fulgham,  
November 28, 1924  
Dr. Walter W. Boyne,  
November 22, 1928,  
November 8, 1932 (elected)  
Dr. Leo L. Madden,  
December 1, 1936

State's Attorneys

(Appointed by the Governor to 1835, by the General Assembly  
to 1849; elected by circuit district electorate to 1872)

Charles P. Kinspel,  
November 27, 1872.  
George W. Brockhaus,  
November 21, 1876  
Robert D. W. Holder,  
November 15, 1880,  
November 20, 1884

Martin W. Schaefer,  
December 3, 1888,  
November 22, 1892  
Martin D. Baker,  
December 7, 1896  
James A. Farmer,  
November 30, 1900

Roster of County Officers

State's Attorneys (cont.)

Fred J. Tecklenburg,	Hilmer C. Lindauer (vice
November 29, 1904,	Schaumleffel, deceased),
November 25, 1908	November 20, 1922,
Charles Webb,	November 28, 1924,
November 26, 1912	November 22, 1928
Hubert E. Schaumleffel,	Louis P. Zerweck,
December 2, 1916,	November 19, 1932,
December 2, 1920	November 28, 1936

Treasurers

(Treasurer's office filled at times by sheriff prior to 1818 and 1825 to 1827. Treasurer also served as assessor 1818 to 1839, 1844 to 1883, and as supervisor of assessments 1898 to 1920; and as collector, 1884 to present. See Finances, page 84, and Treasurer, Chapter XIII, page 256)

John Messinger, <sup>1</sup>	Jacob Eyman,
December 24, 1814	November 8, 1849
William Whiteside,	John Galbraith,
March 9, 1815	November 8, 1851
Charles R. Matheny (vice	F. W. Pulliam,
Whiteside, deceased),	November 10, 1853
April 24, 1815	Charles W. Schoeck,
Jacob Ogle, <sup>2</sup>	November 6, 1855
September 25, 1815	Charles Seitz,
Solomon Miller,	December 9, 1857
August 7, 1843	John Rittenhouse,
William Moore,	April 16, 1859,
August 4, 1845	November 5, 1861
John Scheel,	Herman Weber,
August 2, 1847	November 27, 1863,
	November 20, 1865

- 
1. John Hays recorded as treasurer June term, 1808. County Record, v. 1, p. 42.
  2. Jacob Ogle recorded as treasurer November 13, 1816. County Record, v. 1, p. 186. John Hays, sheriff, recorded as treasurer July 19, 1817. County Court Record, v. 2, p. 25. John Johnston appointed treasurer June 7, 1819, *ibid.*, p. 84, and served continuously until Wm. A. Beaird, sheriff, succeeded him June 7, 1825, *ibid.*, v. 3, p. 90. Sylvester Merrill appointed treasurer March 11, 1828. *Ibid.*, p. 169. John Winstanley appointed treasurer March 25, 1829, *ibid.*, p. 209, and served until the appointment of his successor Thornton Peeples March 9, 1831, *ibid.*, v. 4, p. 38, who served until the appointment of his successor Sylvester Merrill March 6, 1833, *ibid.*, p. 127. Timothy Hinckley appointed treasurer March 6, 1834, *ibid.*, p. 173, serving until the appointment of his successor William B. Davis March 9, 1836, *ibid.*, p. 254, who served until September 5, 1837, when Abraham Badgley presented his certificate of election, *ibid.*, p. 338. On September 16, 1839, John Ward presented his certificate of election as treasurer (County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 5, p. 152), and served continuously until the election of his successor August 7, 1843.



Roster of County Officers

Treasurers (cont.)

Edward Rutz,	Philip Wolf,
November 20, 1867,	November 22, 1902
November 11, 1869,	John J. Wies,
December 8, 1871	November 23, 1906
Fredrick Ropiequet (vice Rutz, resigned),	Paul W. Abt,
January 23, 1873	December 13, 1910
Geo. W. Sieber,	Fred Warning,
November 26, 1873,	November 19, 1914
November 16, 1875,	M. P. Murray, Jr.,
December 1, 1877 (removed	November 23, 1918
February 11, 1879)	Ross C. Adams,
Madison T. Stookey,	November 28, 1922
February 13, 1879 (appointed),	Martin Schnipper,
December 1, 1879,	November 18, 1926
December 1, 1882	Edwin M. Schaefer,
James D. Baker,	November 26, 1930
December 6, 1886	Richard S. Wangelin (vice
Arthur W. Herr,	Schaefer, resigned),
December 2, 1890	February 4, 1933,
Henry C. Begole,	November 30, 1934
November 24, 1894	Henry L. Siekmann, <sup>2</sup>
Adolph Audel, <sup>1</sup>	
November 28, 1898	

Auditors

Fredrick Moser,	Robert W. Tierman,
November 5, 1912 (elected)	November 6, 1928 (elected)
Geo. H. Eckert,	November 8, 1932 "
November 7, 1916 (elected),	November 3, 1936
November 2, 1920 "	
November 4, 1924 "	

Superintendents of Schools  
(School Commissioners to 1865)

Sylvester Merrill, <sup>3</sup>	Richard Bradsly,
August 2, 1841	August 5, 1844
Smyth Moore,	Smyth Moore,
August 7, 1843	August 4, 1845

- 
1. Audel is also spelled Andel, see probate clerk 1902, p. 117.
  2. Shown as county treasurer in Official List of State and County Officers July 1, 1939, p. 47.
  3. William Moore appointed commissioner and agent for the school funds, December 3, 1833. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 4, p. 157. Abraham Badgley appointed commissioner for the school funds December 2, 1834, in place of William Moore, resigned. Ibid., p. 201. Sylvester Merrill appointed commissioner and agent for the school funds December 16, 1834, vice Abraham Badgley who failed to qualify. Ibid., p. 207.

Roster of County Officers

Superintendents of Schools (cont.)

George C. Hart,	James McOuilklin (vice Slade
August 2, 1847	resigned, December 4, 1878),
David McFarland,	December 9, 1878,
November 7, 1849,	November 12, 1879
November 8, 1851	Emil Dapprich,
J. Hughes,	December 1, 1882
November 30, 1853	Charles Cannady,
George Bunsen,	December 6, 1886,
December 9, 1857	December 2, 1890
John H. Dennis,	Charles Hertel,
November 16, 1859,	November 30, 1894,
December 14, 1861	November 28, 1898,
Elihu H. Palmer,	November 22, 1902,
November 27, 1863	November 28, 1906
Augustus Whiting,	William A. Hough,
November 20, 1865	November 28, 1910,
James P. Slade (vice Whiting	November 19, 1914,
resigned, July 9, 1867),	December 5, 1918 (elected),
July 9, 1867,	December 2, 1920
December 20, 1869	John E. Miller,
John B. Givillin,	November 7, 1922 (elected),
November 15, 1873	November 28, 1924,
James P. Slade,	August 1, 1927
March 16, 1875	Edwin H. Runkwitz,
(appointed vice Givillin	September 16, 1931,
deceased),	September 19, 1935
November 16, 1875,	Clarence D. Blair, <sup>1</sup>
December 1, 1877	

Surveyors

(Beginning September, 1936, surveyor  
appointed by county board of supervisors)

John Messinger, <sup>2</sup>	William Moore,
June 22, 1809,	August 18, 1847
February 13, 1821,	William L. Dennen,
August 13, 1835,	November 19, 1849
January 10, 1839	Alfred Moore,
Charles Messinger,	November 15, 1851
August 31, 1839,	Fred Graner,
August 18, 1843	November 16, 1855

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1. Shown as superintendent of schools in Official List of State and County Officers July 1, 1939, p. 47.
  2. The first surveyor, Antoine Girardin, was appointed by Governor St. Clair, June 1, 1790. The St. Clair Papers, ed. Smith, II, 166n.

Roster of County Officers

Surveyors (cont.)

Sharon Tyndale,  
November 28, 1857,  
November 16, 1859  
Gustave Hilgard,  
December 14, 1861  
Henry Holbrook,  
November 3, 1863 (elected)  
Edward Rutz,  
November 20, 1865  
Gustave Hilgard,  
November 20, 1867,  
November 15, 1869,  
January 24, 1872,  
November 2, 1875 (elected)  
Gustavis F. Hilgard,  
November 16, 1875  
Louis Graner,  
November 27, 1876,  
November 6, 1877,  
December 1, 1879,  
December 1, 1884,  
December 3, 1888

Gustavis F. Hilgard,  
December 26, 1892  
Charles Weber,  
December 7, 1896  
William J. Crocken,  
November 30, 1900  
Lee L. Harper,  
November 29, 1904  
Wilfred A. Thompson,  
November 3, 1908 (elected)  
Emmet P. Griffin,  
November 5, 1912 (elected)  
Wilfred A. Thompson,  
November 7, 1916 (elected)  
Stanley Krebs,  
November 2, 1920 (elected),  
November 4, 1924 "  
J. E. Weinell,  
November 13, 1925 (appointed  
vice Krebs, to fill  
unexpired term),  
November 26, 1926  
Wayne McCabe,  
December 5, 1928,  
November 8, 1932 (elected)



## 4. HOUSING, CARE, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE RECORDS

Courts, in the early days of the Northwest Territory when St. Clair was established, were held in the open air or in private buildings. The first court held in St. Clair County after its organization was at Cahokia in a private dwelling which was later purchased, October 8, 1793, from Francis Saucier for \$1,000.<sup>1</sup> This dwelling was originally built in 1716 as a fort.<sup>2</sup> It was built of hewn logs, and had a ridge roof.

On April 14, 1814, Isaac Enocks, James Lemen, N. Chambers, and John Hays, commissioners appointed in December, 1813 to fix a new seat of justice for St. Clair County, reported that they had selected a site on the land of George Blair, about 15 miles southeast of Cahokia. They further reported that George Blair agreed to donate one acre of land for the county buildings and also to relinquish twenty-five acres of his land around the public square as a site for a town and to donate to the county every fifth lot when the land was plotted. The new town was called Belleville.<sup>3</sup>

In the term of court held in September, 1815 the court ordered the old Cahokia courthouse to be sold October 16, at public auction.<sup>4</sup> But as early as in April, 1814 the court decided to build a courthouse in Belleville.<sup>5</sup> In September, 1815 a contract was awarded for the construction of a courthouse to the following specifications: "30 feet long, 20 feet wide, two stories of brick, lower story to be 12 feet and upper story

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1. The Centennial History of Illinois, ed. Clarence Walworth Alvord (Springfield: Illinois Centennial Commission, 1920), I, 404 n. 10.
  2. Otto L. Schmidt, President, Chicago Historical Society, correspondence of January 28, 1927, relating to Cahokia Courthouse filed with insert No. 5, Official Proceedings South Park District, (Chicago) v. 35.
  3. County Record, v. 1, p. 103, 104. See Historical Sketch, p. 61.
  4. County Record, v. 1, p. 138. The old courthouse in Cahokia remained standing on its original site for almost a century. "The building was taken apart and rebuilt in the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904 in St. Louis by a speculator for exhibition purposes. After the exposition it was sold to Miss Valentine Smith of Chicago, and then with suitable ceremony, given into the trust of the South Park Commissioners." Otto L. Schmidt, correspondence, (see footnote 2). A site on Wooded Island, Jackson Park, Chicago, was granted October 17, 1906. Official Proceedings South Park District, v. 9. On August 30, 1937 the Department of Public Works, State of Illinois, was authorized to remove the old courthouse from Jackson Park to its original location in Cahokia, which had been purchased by the state. Official Proceedings Chicago Park District, v. IV, p. 254.
  5. County Record, v. 1, p. 109.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

at least 7 feet in height. The upper story to be cut in two parts for jury rooms."<sup>1</sup> This courthouse was eventually built by Etienne Pencenneau at a cost of \$1,725<sup>2</sup> and accepted by the county September 11, 1817.<sup>3</sup>

It cannot be definitely established where the court met while the courthouse was in process of construction but county records cite a payment of \$9.00 on November 13, 1816 to Edward Pinnoneau for rent of a room,<sup>4</sup> and a report submitted by the clerk, John Hay, on August 10, 1818 shows an item of \$112.00 for rent of a clerk's office for two years, four months, and four days.<sup>5</sup>

An interesting sidelight on the care of records at that time is afforded by an entry in the county records. It appears that during the December term of 1821, county clerk Hay requested and received an order for "four or not more than six boxes with sliding covers made to preserve the papers in his office" because they were in danger "of being much damaged by a great quantity of mico."<sup>6</sup>

By 1824 the courthouse proved inadequate for the county's needs and at the December term the court decided to advertise for bids to construct a new one.<sup>7</sup> No action was taken, however, until in December, 1827 when William Fowler was appointed an agent for the building of the new courthouse "according to the plans as may be connected between him and the court."<sup>8</sup> This courthouse, built of brick was completed early in 1832 at a cost of \$3,792.58.<sup>9</sup> The old courthouse was ordered sold at public auction in December, 1830.<sup>10</sup>

It is apparent, from studying county records, that the county clerk was not provided with space in the courthouse. From December, 1830 to October, 1834 the clerk's office was located in a house rented from James Mitchell for \$3.00 a month.<sup>11</sup> On October 29, 1833 the court ordered the sheriff, John D. Hughes, "to cry out this day the building of a fireproof clerk's office to the lowest bidder."<sup>12</sup> The contract was let to William Fowler for the sum of \$1,425.00, with an additional \$2.00 for the plans. The clerk's new building, a two-story brick structure, was accepted by

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1. County Record, v. 1, p. 139.
  2. Ibid., v. 2, p. 24,25.
  3. Ibid., p. 25.
  4. Ibid., v. 1, p. 187.
  5. Ibid., v. 2, p. 70.
  6. County Court Record, v. 3, p. 19.
  7. Ibid., p. 80.
  8. Ibid., p. 158,159.
  9. Ibid., p. 199,227; County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 4, p. 12, 18,66,73,76,79,99,100,102,105.
  10. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 4, p. 31.
  11. Ibid., p. 71,79,164,200.
  12. Ibid., p. 152.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

the court in October, 1834.<sup>1</sup> With extras it had cost \$1,576.00.<sup>2</sup> From May, 1841 to March, 1842, the recorder's office was located in a house rented from H. A. Craw at \$6.00 a month.<sup>3</sup> Where his office may have been located at other intervals cannot be determined.

The fourth courthouse in St. Clair County, and the third to be built in Belleville, was projected as early as December 5, 1849 when the county purchased, for \$2,500, the southeast corner of the present public square, a parcel 44 by 99 feet, from N. N. Ridgeley, John Calhoun, and Uri Manley, trustees for the State Bank of Illinois.<sup>4</sup> On April 16, 1850, architect Richard Barrett was allowed \$25 for plans for the courthouse with the provision that the price of the plans would be \$100 should the county build according to them.<sup>5</sup> On January 26, 1855, the southwest corner of the public square was purchased for \$7,000.00,<sup>6</sup> and on June 4, 1857, a lot adjoining the county property to the north was purchased from W. H. Stuart for \$4,207.50.<sup>7</sup>

Actual work on the courthouse began in the autumn of 1857. The members of the court themselves assumed the role of general contractors and, under the direction of architect Robert Mitchell, purchased material, hired laborers, and superintended the work.<sup>8</sup> On November 16, 1857, it was decided to erect the building directly in the center of the land bought, leaving 24 feet clear on each side.<sup>9</sup> That same Fall construction was begun<sup>10</sup> and continued through the Spring of 1861.<sup>11</sup> The cost was in excess of \$60,000,<sup>12</sup> excluding the site, furniture, and equipment. The building was financed by means of county orders, and bond issues; with a loan from Evan Rodgers, of Philadelphia, in 1859 for \$25,000;<sup>13</sup> from John F. Anderson and Company, of St. Louis, in 1860 for \$20,000;<sup>14</sup> and from Evan Rodgers in 1861 for \$20,000.<sup>15</sup>

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1. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 4, p. 195.
  2. Ibid., p. 165,180,187,190,195.
  3. County Court Record, v. 5, p. 277,334.
  4. Ibid., p. 16.
  5. Ibid., v. B, p. 62.
  6. Ibid., p. 487.
  7. Ibid., v. C, 140,141.
  8. Ibid., p. 141,228.
  9. Ibid., p. 141.
  10. Ibid., p. 170.
  11. Ibid., v. D, p. 7.
  12. Ibid., v. C, p. 141,170,171,211,222,223,228,232,265,296,303,322,421,448,455,490,494.
  13. Ibid., p. 263.
  14. Ibid., p. 500,501.
  15. Ibid., p. 421. While it appears from available county records that a total of \$65,000 was borrowed, according to secondary sources, the St. Clair county court contracted various loans amounting to \$85,000. Besides this, the court issued \$18,666 in county orders. In 1861 there was a further issue of county orders amounting to \$11,445.08 so that the whole amount expended appears to have been \$115,111.08. History of St. Clair County, Illinois (Philadelphia: Brink, McDonough and Co., 1881), p. 80.



Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

The completed courthouse, approximately 60 by 90 feet, was two stories high with an English basement. It was built of stone and brick and had a portico supported by four massive columns. The architectural style was predominantly Grecian with innovations that were modern for the time. This building is still in use and constitutes the northern part, or front, of the courthouse as it is today. The old courthouse was ordered sold at public auction March 13, 1861.<sup>1</sup>

The natural increase of county business as the years advanced, necessitated larger quarters, so on March 6, 1893 the board of supervisors entered into a contract with Bailey and Kroener, of Henderson, Kentucky, for the erection of an addition to the courthouse.<sup>2</sup> The new addition was completed near the close of the same year<sup>3</sup> at a cost of \$29,956.00;<sup>4</sup> installation of heating equipment, furnishings, and architect's fees raised the final amount to a total of \$37,398.78.<sup>5</sup> All construction was financed through county orders.

The new addition, 80 by 90 feet, like the older part of the structure, is two stories high with an English basement, and corresponds in architectural detail to that of the original building.

A second addition, known as the Highway Building, but also termed the courthouse annex, was built during 1931 and 1932 just to the west of the courthouse and is connected to the latter by a covered corridor. Constructed with accumulated funds of the county highway department, the Highway Building was erected at this time primarily as an emergency measure to provide employment during the economic depression.<sup>6</sup> The plan to erect the annex was first projected September 8, 1931 when a resolution to that effect was submitted to the board by a group of supervisors. A joint committee was appointed, composed of the courthouse committee and the road and bridge committee, to put the plan into effect.<sup>7</sup> Preliminary floor plans and specifications were drawn up by the architect, O. W. Rubach, and approved with recommendations October 3.<sup>8</sup> A month later, November 7, contracts were let to the Bauer Bros. Construction Co., of Belleville, for the erection of the Highway Building at a cost of \$73,040.<sup>9</sup> At the same time the plumbing and sewer contract was let to Edward C. Rust, of Belleville, for \$3,324. In the case of both contracts, the contractors had to furnish written

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1. County Court Record, v. C, p. 441.
  2. Supervisors' Record, v. 3, p. 33.
  3. Ibid., p. 147, 157.
  4. Ibid., p. 33.
  5. Ibid., p. 41, 82, 92, 98, 103, 117, 129, 138, 140, 146, 147, 157, 169, 183, 203, 246, 249.
  6. Ibid., v. 20, p. 172. At this time the county treasury had in its highway fund \$96,000. Ibid., p. 328.
  7. Ibid., p. 172.
  8. Ibid., p. 300.
  9. Ibid., p. 328.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

guarantees that they would "employ St. Clair County labor, affording the laboring men of all parts of the county equal opportunity, as may be consistent and practical, for the work being performed, and pay the prevailing rate of wages in this community."<sup>1</sup> On December 5, a contract was awarded for heating and ventilating to Edward C. Rust for \$8,195.<sup>2</sup>

By August 6, 1932<sup>3</sup> a preliminary report of construction activities was given to the board by the joint building committees, followed by a final report of the termination of all work on September 17.<sup>4</sup> A general report of the joint committee, rendered to the board October 1, stated that the total cost of the Highway Building, with all fixtures and equipment, was \$96,438.05.<sup>5</sup>

The new building is built of dark buff brick with a hard finish, and the interior walls are of glazed tile. It has reinforced concrete columns and floors, with public lobbies and stairways finished in terrazzo tile and other floors in similar material. The building is L-shaped and two stories high. In its greatest dimensions it is 80 by 105 feet. Modern and completely fireproof, it assures the county ample facilities for housing of present volume of records with space for future expansion.

The arrangement of offices in the courthouse changed with the erection of each new addition. The courthouse proper is treated as a single unit. In this, the first floor is divided by a long corridor running north and south. Here are contained the suites of the county clerk, the probation officer, state's attorney, sheriff, circuit clerk, the office of the county judge, and the county courtroom. Beside the circuit clerk's office is a broad stairway which leads to the second floor where are located the offices of the auditor, the superintendent of schools, a grand jury room, the auditor's annex, office of the master in chancery, a ladies' restroom, the circuit courtroom and adjacent court reporters' office, a consultation room, and judge's chambers. The basement, which is high and of the type known as an English basement, contains the suite of the probate clerk, a room used by the Boy Scouts, a men's restroom, the common vault, a ladies' restroom, the museum vault, and probate courtroom and judge's chambers.

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1. Supervisors' Record, v. 20, p. 329.
  2. Ibid., p. 365.
  3. Ibid., v. 21, p. 79.
  4. Ibid., p. 120.
  5. Ibid., p. 186.

## Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

On the west side of the first floor of the courthouse is a communicating hall which leads to the second floor of the adjacent county Highway Building. Because of the height of the English basement, the first floor of the courthouse is level with the second floor of the Highway Building. The Highway Building is two stories high. The first floor is occupied by the suite of the superintendent of highways, a drafting room, a file room, and an assembly room. The second floor contains the suite of the recorder and his vault and the suite of the treasurer and his vault. (For detailed floor plans of the courthouse and the Highway Building, see pages 136-140).

The floors in the courthouse are in general of wood covered with linoleum. The floors in the circuit clerk's two vaults and the county clerk's vault are of wood. The probate clerk's vault and the common vault have floors of concrete. The floor in the museum vault is of marble. In the Highway Building, the floors in the suite of the superintendent of highways, the file room, and the drafting room are of tile. In the remainder of the building the floors are of concrete and tile.

Drop cord electric lights in both the courthouse and the Highway Building afford ample artificial light to supplement natural light. Ventilation is adequate in general, except in the county clerk's vault, the circuit clerk's vault, the circuit clerk's small vault, and the museum vault, in which depositories some dust appears. In the Highway Building there is some dust in the file room, but the records are well stored in cabinets. The treasurer's vault, however, is poorly ventilated. Accommodations for consultants of the records are excellent in all of the offices and vaults, except in the two vaults of the county clerk and the museum vault where no conveniences exist. The same is true of the file room in the Highway Building.

Besides the offices in the courthouse and in the Highway Building, several other county offices having records are located in various other places. The election commissioner's office is in the I. V. Summers Building at 17 Main Street, East St. Louis, Illinois; the coroner's office is in the Skyes Building at 403 Collinsville Avenue, East St. Louis; the veterinarian's office is in his residence on Main Street, Columbia, Monroe County; the office of the superintendent of the detention home is in the detention home on West Main and Harper Hill, Belleville; the office of the superintendent of the St. Clair County workhouse is in the workhouse at West F. Street, Belleville; the office of the farm advisor is in the Farm Bureau Building at 408 E. Washington Street, Belleville; the old age assistance office is in the Arcade Building at 118 North Main Street, East St. Louis; the office of the superintendent of the St. Clair County Home is in the county home at 1400 Caseyville Street, Belleville; the St. Clair County tuberculosis sanatorium board is in the First National Bank Building at Collinsville and Missouri Avenues, East St. Louis; the county physician's office is in his professional office at 16 North High Street, Belleville; and the mine inspector's office is in his home at 811 St. Clair Avenue, Belleville.



# Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

The allocation of county records, by offices, is as follows: county board, in the county clerk's vault, the county clerk's large vault, the common vault, museum vault, and in the offices of the examiner of the blind, superintendent of the workhouse, mine inspector, and the county physician; county clerk, in his office, his vault, his large vault, the common vault, museum vault, treasurer's office, treasurer's vault, and the board of assessors - board of review room; the recorder, in his office, his vault, and the common vault; county court, in the county clerk's office, the county clerk's vault, the county clerk's large vault, the common vault, museum vault, and the probate office; probate court, in the probate clerk's office and vault, the common vault, and museum vault; circuit court, in the circuit clerk's vault, the circuit clerk's small vault, the common vault, the recorder's vault, and in the office of the master in chancery; sheriff, in his office, the office of the county jail, and the common vault; coroner, in his office, the circuit clerk's vault, museum vault, and the common vault; state's attorney, in his office and the common vault; board of assessors, in the board of assessors board of review room, the county clerk's large vault, and in the common vault; board of review, in the board of assessors board of review room, the county clerk's large vault, and the common vault; collector, in the treasurer's vault, museum vault, and the common vault; treasurer, in his office, his vault, the common vault, and museum vault; auditor, in his office and the common vault; superintendent of schools, in his office; superintendent of highways, in his office, the drafting room, and the file room; surveyor, in the recorder's vault; drainage commissioners, in the county clerk's large vault and the common vault; veterinarian, in the county veterinarian's office; department of public welfare, in the office of the superintendent of public welfare; county home, in the office of the superintendent of the county home; tuberculosis sanitarium board, in the office of Dr. Robinson Bosworth; detention home, in the office of the superintendent of the detention home; and the farm bureau, in the office of the farm advisor. In addition, there is housed in glass cases in the recorder's vault, a valuable collection of court documents, officers' bonds, school land sale certificates, jail and poor house reports, resignations of constables, probate documents, a record of the court of common pleas of St. Clair County, 1793 to 1808, and a record of the court of the District of Cahokia, 1778 to 1787. Known as the Perrin Collection, it was gathered by J. Nick Perrin, of Belleville, with the consent of the board of supervisors for the purpose of preserving old records of historical value. Mr. Perrin is sole custodian of this highly prized collection. (For description of items in Perrin Collection, see Appendix. For detailed information on the individual depositories, with a description of facilities for the housing of records, as well as present of records stored therein, see charts on pages 132-135.)

Provisions for careful housing and maintenance of records, with a view toward their best preservation, have been carried out. Approximately ninety-five percent of the records are stored in fireproof vaults. Binding and repair of record volumes are under direct supervision of the county board. Indexing and filing of records follow systems adopted and employed by other counties in Illinois.

CHARTS SHOWING HOUSING FACILITIES AND PERCENTAGES OF RECORDS

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Main Street and Illinois Avenue, Belleville

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
County Clerk's Office	1st S.W.	14x21x31	Steel	76	7	$\frac{1}{2}$	County Court 5
County Clerk's Vault	1st S.W.	14x7x13	Steel Wood	90	66	3	County Board 2; County Court 32
County Clerk's Large Vault	1st S.W.	14x13x31	Steel	1380	999	$6\frac{1}{2}$	Co.Bd. 32; Co.Ct. 46; Bd. of Assessors 24; Bd. of Review 1; Drainage Commissioners 35
Board of Assessors- Board of Review Room	Bsmt. E.	12x21x25	Steel	1199	41	--	Board of Assessors 1; Board of Review 15
Probation Office	1st W.	14x11x21	Steel	10	4	--	County Court $\frac{1}{2}$
Probate Clerk's Office	Bsmt.N.W.	12x26x30	Steel	72	-- -- --	--	Probate Court $1\frac{1}{2}$
Probate Clerk's Vault	Bsmt.S.W.	12x12x32	Steel	956	1190	--	Probate Court 80
Circuit Clerk's Vault	1st S.E.	14x21x36	Steel	1241	1735	--	Circuit Court 57; Coroner 40
Circuit Clerk's Small Vault	1st S.E.	14x8x16	Steel Wood	208	14	--	Circuit Court $\frac{1}{2}$
Master in Chancery	2nd E.	16x15x21	Steel	18	-- -- --	--	Circuit Court 1
Sheriff's Office	1st N.E.	14x21x24	Steel	13	-- -- --	30	
State's Attorney	1st N.W.	14x21x25	Steel	87	221	99	

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Auditor's Office	2nd W.	16x21x23	Steel	78	30	80	
Superintendent of Schools Office	2nd N.W.	16x21x25	Steel	144	11	100	
Museum Vault	Bsmt. E.	12x20x36	Steel	459	73	--	County Board 15; County Clerk 40; County Court $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Probate Court $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Cor. 4; Coll. 41; Treas. 10
Common Vault	Bsmt. W.	12x21x21	Steel	706	18	--	Co. Bd. 47; Co. Clk. 42; Rec. 27; Co.Ct. 16; Pro. Ct. 18; Cir. Ct. 41; Sh. 62; Cor. 55; State's Atty. 1; Bd. of Assessors 75; Bd. of Review 84; Coll. 35; Treas. 1; Aud. 20; Drainage Commissioners 65

COUNTY HIGHWAY BUILDING (Courthouse Annex)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Recorder's Office	2nd N.E.	11x20x26	Steel	126	-- -- --	3	
Recorder's Vault	2nd N.W.	11x32x53	Steel	2126	1	70	Circuit Court $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Surveyor 100; Perrin's Collection 100
Treasurer's Office	2nd S.E.	11x28x34	Steel	1562	1	1	County Clerk $2\frac{1}{2}$
Treasurer's Vault	2nd S.	11x17x13	Steel Wood	288	1	54	Collector 24; County Clerk 3
Superintendent of Highways Office	1st N.E.	10x26x20	Steel Wood	48	43	7	
Superintendent of Highways Fileroom	1st W.	10x11x12	Steel Wood	163	7	3	
Supt. of Highways Drafting Room	1st W.	10x32x27	-- -- --	-- -- --	Cabinet	90	



I. V. SUMMERS' BUILDING, 17 North Main Street, East St. Louis

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Election Commissioner's Office	1st	14x12x15	Steel	14	- - - - -	100	

SYKES BUILDING, 403 Collinsville Avenue, East St. Louis

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Coroner's Office	2nd	10x15x17	Steel	4	4	1	

VETERINARIAN RESIDENCE, Main Street, Columbia, Monroe County

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Veterinarian's Office	Bsmt.	8x10x12	Cabinet	20	- - - - -	100	

ST. CLAIR COUNTY DETENTION HOME, West Main Streer and Harper Hill, Belleville

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Superintendent's Office	1st	12x10x12	- - -	- - -	- - - - -	100	

ST. CLAIR COUNTY WORKHOUSE, West F. Street, Belleville

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Superintendent of Workhouse Office	1st	10x13x22	- - -	- - -	- - - - -	- -	County Board 2

FARM BUREAU BUILDING, 408 East Washington Street, Belleville

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Office of Farm Advisor	1st	10x15x16	Wood	12	4	100	

ARCADE BUILDING, 118 North Main Street, East St. Louis

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Old Age Assistance, Dept. of Public Welfare Office	1st	12x20x18	Steel	18	20	100	

ST. CLAIR COUNTY HOME, 1400 Caseyville Street, Belleville

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Superintendent of County Home	1st	120x20x24	Wood Steel	13	7	100	

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, Collinsville and Missouri Avenues, East St. Louis

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Office of Physician of TB. San. Bd.	Rm. 603	8x12x14	Steel	10	9	100	

MURPHY BUILDING, 240 Collinsville Avenue, East St. Louis

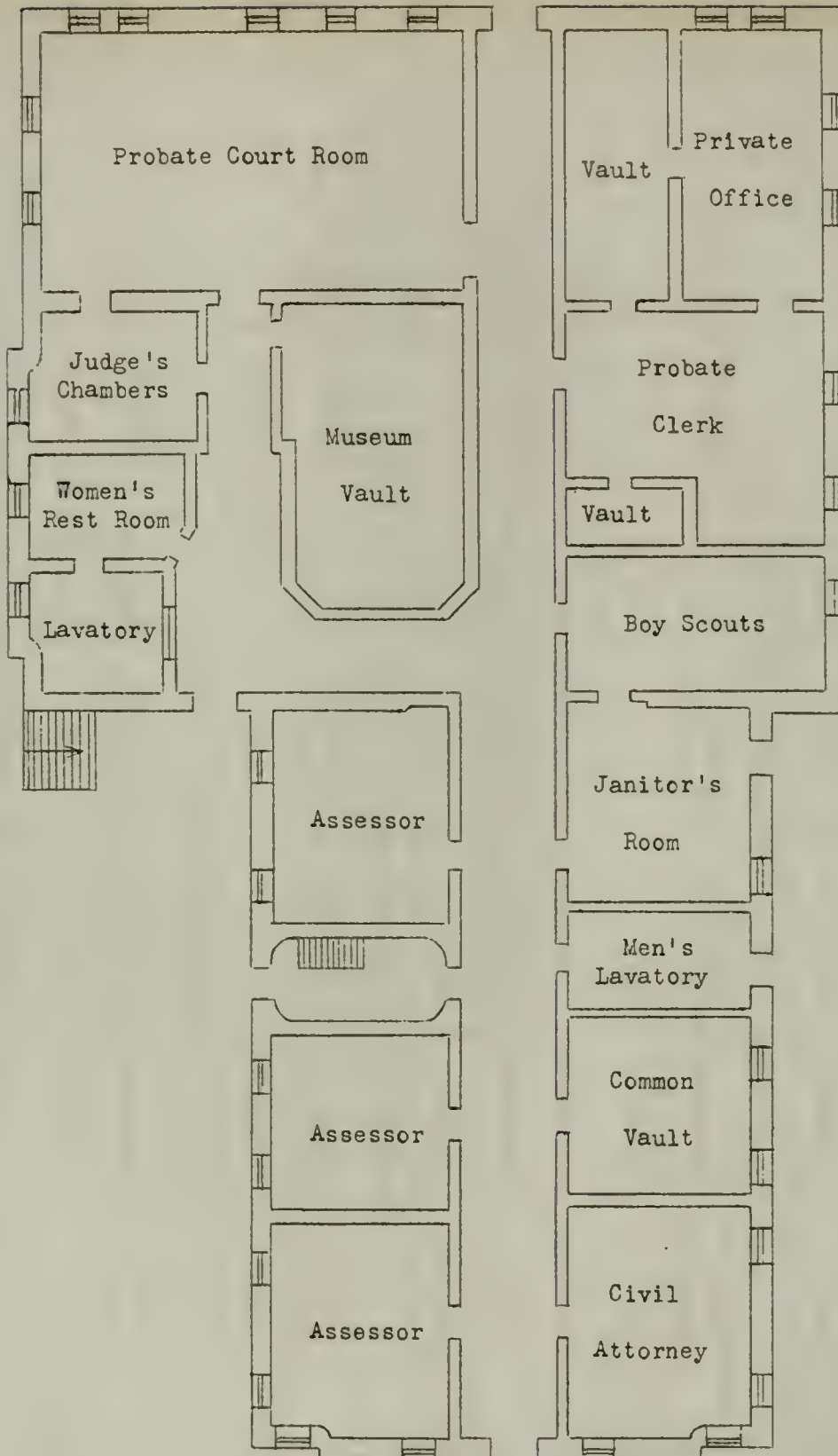
Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Office of Examiner of the Blind	Rm. 314	10x10x12	- - -	- - -	- - -	- -	County Board $\frac{1}{2}$

BAHREMBURG BUILDING, Belleville

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
County Physician's Office (Now at 16 North High Street)	1st	10x12x16	Steel	4	4	- -	County Board $\frac{1}{2}$

HOME OF MINE INSPECTOR, 811 St. Clair Avenue, Belleville

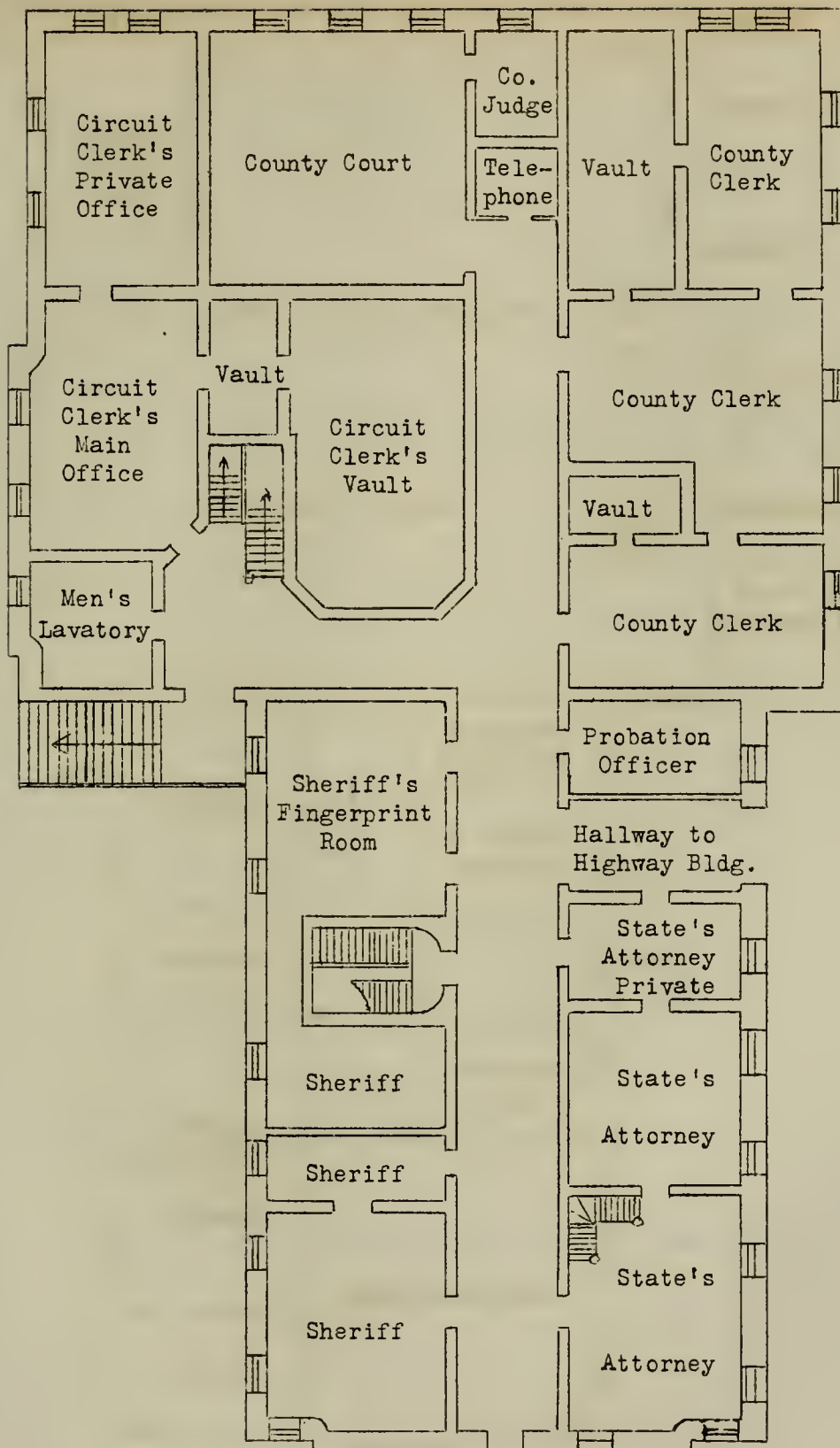
Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Office	Bsmt.	10x12x14	- - -	- - -	- - -	- -	County Board 1



ST. CLAIR COUNTY COURTHOUSE

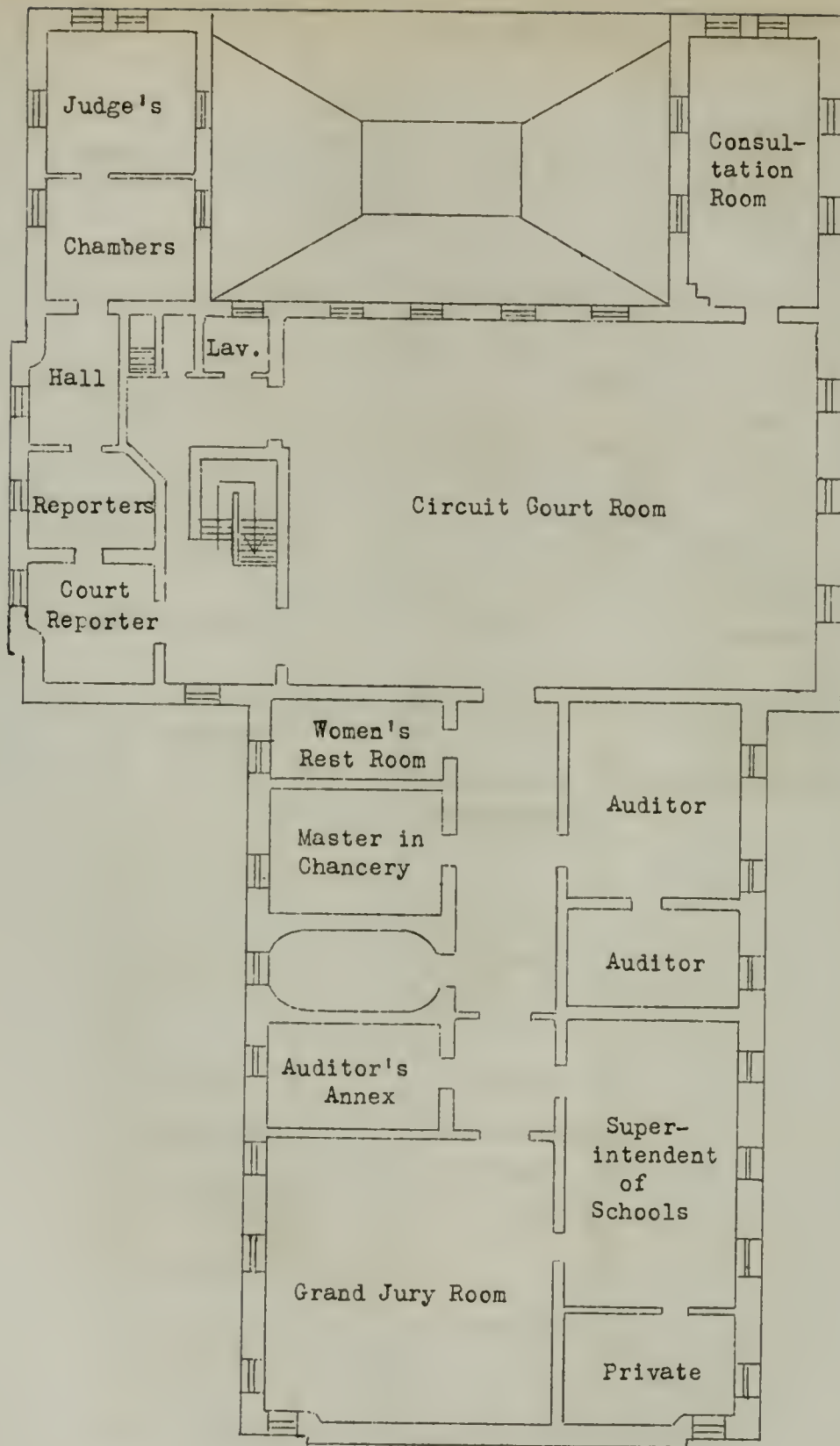
BASEMENT





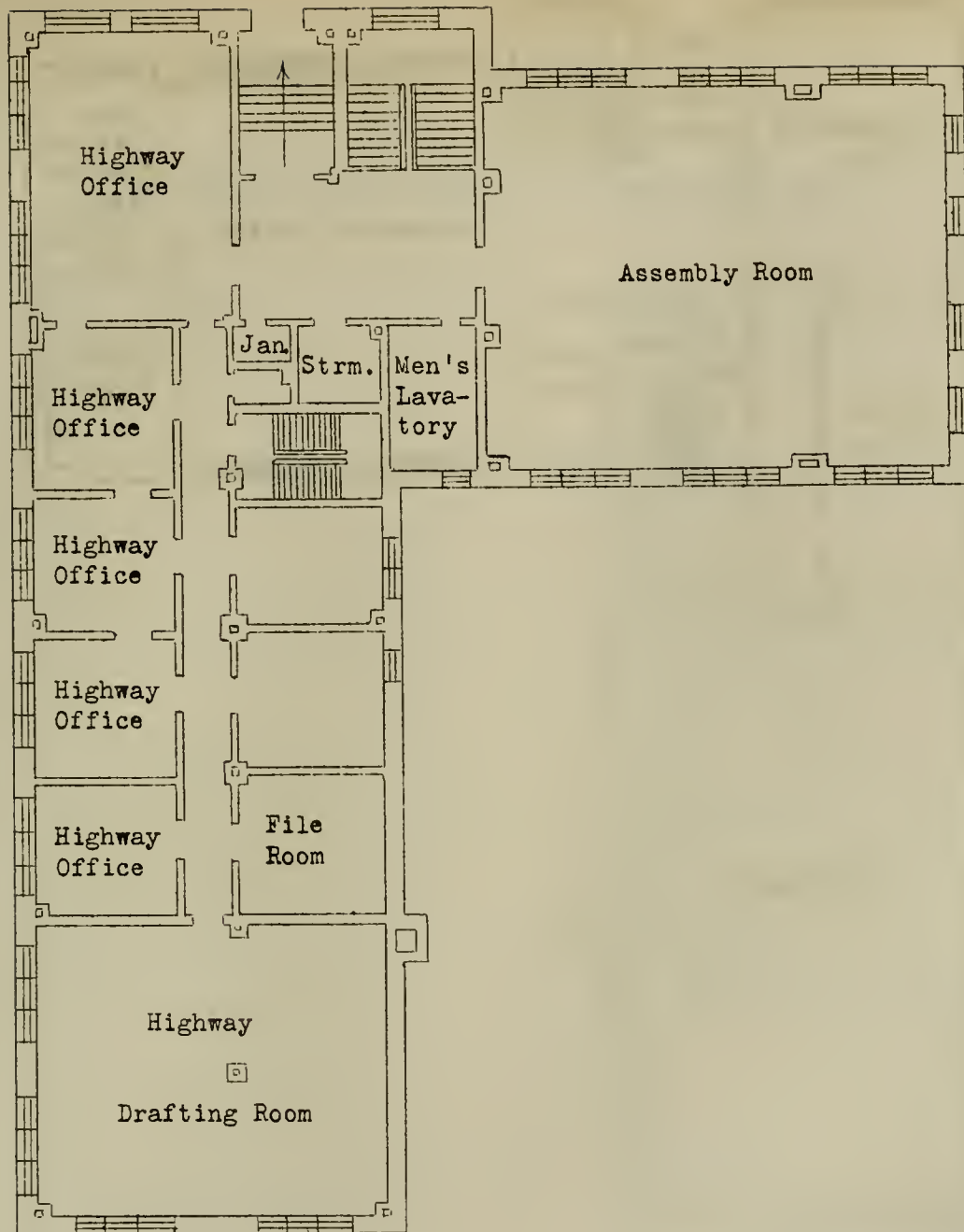
ST. CLAIR COUNTY COURTHOUSE

FIRST FLOOR



ST. CLAIR COUNTY COURTHOUSE

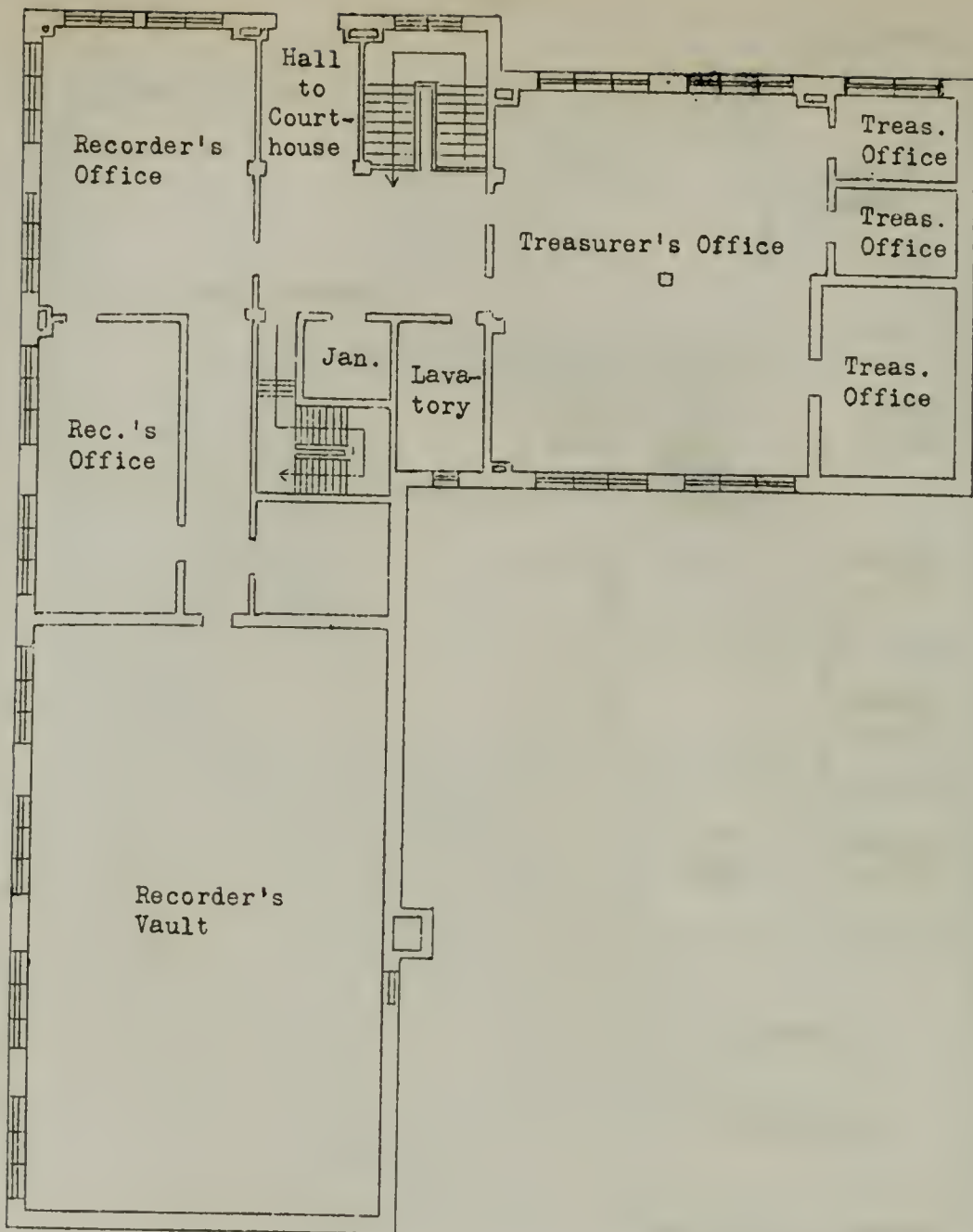
SECOND FLOOR



ST. CLAIR COUNTY HIGHWAY BUILDING (COURTHOUSE ANNEX)

FIRST FLOOR





ST. CLAIR COUNTY HIGHWAY BUILDING (COURTHOUSE ANNEX)

SECOND FLOOR

# 5. ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

alph.	alphabetical (ly)
app.	appendix
arr.	arranged (arrangement)
art.	article
assr.	assessor
atty.	attorney
aud.	auditor
bd.	board
bdl.	bundle (s)
bldg.	building
bsmt.	basement
cf.	confer (compare)
ch.	chapter (s)
chron.	chronological (ly)
cir.	circuit
clk.	clerk
co.	county
coll.	collector
cont.	continued
cor.	coroner
ct.	court
dept.	department
f.b.	file box (es)
f.d.	file drawer (s)
f., ff.	and following page (pages)
fl.	floor
fm.	form
ft.	feet
hdgs.	headings
hdw.	handwritten
hwys.	highways
ibid	ibidem (in the same place)
i.e.	id est (that is)
Ill.	Illinois Reports (Supreme Court)
Ill. App.	Illinois Appellate Court (Reports)
Ill. S.A.	Illinois Statutes Annotated
in.	inch (es)
infra.	below or following
L.	laws (of Illinois)
loc. cit.	loco citato (in the place cited)
mi.	mile (s)
n.	footnote (s)
no. (s)	number (s)
N.W.	Northwestern Reporter
off.	office
op. cit.	opere citato (in the work cited)

Abbreviations, Symbols,  
and Explanatory Notes

p.	page (s)
pr.	printed
pro.	probate
rec.	recorder
R.L.	Revised Laws (of Illinois)
rm.	room
R.S.	Revised Statute (of Illinois)
sch.	school (s)
sec.	section (s)
sep.	separate
Sess.	Session
sh.	sheriff
sp.	special
strm.	storeroom
supra.	above or proceeding
supt.	superintendent
surv.	surveyor
T.B. San. Bd.	Tuberculosis Sanitarium Board
treas.	treasurer
twp. (s)	township (s)
U.S.R.S.	United States Revised Statutes
U.S.S.	United States Statutes
v.	volume (s)
vet.	veterinarian
vice.	in place of
vlt.	vault
--	current

1. Despite inaccuracies in spelling and punctuation, titles of records are shown in the inventory proper exactly as on volumes and file boxes. The current or most recent title is used as the title of the entry.

2. Explanatory additions to inadequate titles and corrections of erroneous titles are enclosed in parentheses and have initial capitals.

3. In the absence of titles, supplied titles are capitalized and enclosed in parentheses.

4. In the title set-up, letters or numbers in parentheses indicate the exact labeling on volumes or file boxes. If the volumes or file boxes are unlabeled, no labeling is indicated.

5. Title line cross references are used to complete series for records kept separately for a period of time, and in other records for different periods of time, as in entry 3, "1894-1925 in Supervisor Proceedings (Files), entry 1." They are also used in all artificial entries - records which must be shown separately under their own proper office or section heading even though they are kept in files or records appearing elsewhere in the inventory, as in entry 200, "1876-78 in (Miscellaneous Files), entry 131C2; 1916-- in Bonds (Miscellaneous), entry 122."



Abbreviations, Symbols,  
and Explanatory Notes

In both instances, the description of the master entry shows the title and entry number of the record from which the cross reference is made, as in entry 131C2, "Contains: (Bail Bonds), 1876-78, entry 200," and in entry 122, "Also contains (Bail Bonds), 1916--, entry 200." Dates shown in the description of the master entry are only for the part or parts of the record contained therein, and are shown only when they vary from those of the master entry.

6. Separate third paragraph cross references from entry to entry, and "see also" references under subject headings, are used to show prior, subsequent, or related records which are not part of the same series.

7. Where no explanation of the beginning or for the discontinuance of a record is given, and where no cross reference appears, the information explaining such beginning or discontinuance could not be ascertained.

8. Unless the index is self-contained, an entry for the index immediately follows its record entry. Cross references are given for exceptions to this rule.

9. Records may be assumed to be in good condition unless otherwise indicated.

10. On maps and plat records, the names of author, engraver, and publisher, and information on scale have been omitted only when these data were not ascertainable.

11. Unless otherwise specified, all records are located in the county courthouse.



## I. COUNTY BOARD

In Illinois, the county board is that body which exercises the corporate or politic power of the county.<sup>1</sup> In St. Clair County since 1819<sup>2</sup> four bodies have successively acted as a county board: the county commissioners' court, the county court, the board of county commissioners, and the board of supervisors.

The Constitution of 1818 provided that there should be elected in each county, for the purpose of transacting all county business, three commissioners whose term of service, powers and duties should be regulated and defined by law.<sup>3</sup> The first General Assembly denominated the commissioners a court of record, styled the county commissioners' court.<sup>4</sup> Four annual sessions were required to be held for six days each, unless the business of the court should be completed sooner; additionally, any one of the commissioners had power, upon giving five days notice to the remaining commissioners and the clerk of the court, to call a special session during which the court had the same power and authority it exercised at regular sessions.<sup>5</sup> The first commissioners were elected for an irregular term;<sup>6</sup> subsequently, it was provided that they should be elected at each biennial general election;<sup>7</sup> and in 1837, the term was lengthened to three years and staggered, with one new commissioner elected annually.<sup>8</sup> Thereafter, the commissioner

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1. R.L.1827, p. 107; R.S.1845, p. 130; R.S.1874, p. 306.
  2. Prior to 1819, four bodies also successively acted as county boards: the court of general quarter sessions of the peace was composed of not less than three, nor more than five of the justices in each county; the court of common pleas consisted of not more than five, nor less than three judges in each county; the county court was composed of three judges; and the justices' court was composed of the justices of the peace of the county, any three of whom constituted a court or quorum to do business (see General Administration, p. 81).
  3. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4.
  4. L.1819, p. 175.
  5. Ibid., p. 175,176.
  6. Ibid., p. 100. The commissioners were to continue in office from the election held on the fourth Monday in April, 1819, until the first Wednesday in August, 1820, and until their successors were elected and qualified. Not until 1821 was provision made for the election of such successors (L.1821, p. 80). In St. Clair County, the first commissioners held office from April, 1819 to August, 1820.
  7. L.1821, p. 80.
  8. R.L.1837, p. 103,104. In 1838, to initiate the new procedure, three commissioners were elected; by lot, they held office respectively for one, two, and three years.



County Board

who was longest in office was to be recognized as the presiding officer of the court.<sup>1</sup> Compensation, originally set at the sum of \$2.50 for each day's attendance in holding court,<sup>2</sup> later was reduced to \$1.50.<sup>3</sup> In 1821, provision was made for the removal of commissioners for malfeasance or nonfeasance of duties, with proceedings as in criminal cases;<sup>4</sup> when the first criminal code was enacted in 1827, the penalty was modified to a fine of not more than \$200, with removal from office only upon recommendation of the jury.<sup>5</sup> Vacancies resulting from any cause were filled by special election upon order of the clerk of the court to the district judges of election.<sup>6</sup>

In 1848 when the State of Illinois adopted a new constitution, the county commissioners' court was discontinued. In its place, the constitution provided for an administrative body to be composed of an elected officer, the county judge, and such number of justices of the peace as should be required by law.<sup>7</sup> In the following legislative session, the General Assembly provided for the election of two justices of the peace to sit with the county judge to transact county business.<sup>8</sup> Their term of office, like that of the county judge, was set at four years.<sup>9</sup> This body, styled the county court, was required to hold four sessions annually and when so sitting, had all power, jurisdiction, and authority formerly conferred upon the county commissioners' court.<sup>10</sup> The compensation of the county judge was originally set at \$2.50 for every day of holding court.<sup>11</sup> In 1855 the amount was increased to \$3.00.<sup>12</sup>

The new constitution also directed that the General Assembly provide, by general law, for a township organization under which any county might organize whenever a majority of the voters in the county should so determine.<sup>13</sup> By provision of the subsequent enabling acts,<sup>14</sup> a board of

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1. R.L.1837, p. 104.
  2. L.1819, p. 176.
  3. R.L.1827, p. 205.
  4. L.1821, p. 20-22. Conviction further carried disqualification from holding office for one year.
  5. R.L.1827, p. 145.
  6. R.L.1837, p. 104. No election was required to be held if the term of the commissioner vacating office would have expired within six months from the date of vacancy.
  7. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,17,19.
  8. L.1849, p. 65,66.
  9. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17. L.1849, p. 62,65,66.
  10. L.1849, p. 65.
  11. Ibid., p. 63.
  12. L.1855, p. 181.
  13. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6.
  14. L.1849, p. 190-234; L.1851, p. 35-78. The latter law repealed and was a complete substitute for the earlier, but so far as their effect on the sphere of county government is concerned, there was almost no difference between the two,

County Board

supervisors, whose members were to be elected one in each township annually,<sup>1</sup> was created to transact all county business in counties adopting township organization.<sup>2</sup> The board of supervisors was to meet for one regular session a year with the provision that special meetings might be held when convenient.<sup>3</sup> St. Clair County, however, retained the county court as its governing body throughout the second constitutional period.

In 1870, when a new state constitution was adopted, a further change occurred in the form of the county board. The new constitution, while continuing the provision for township organization,<sup>4</sup> created for all counties not adopting this plan a board of three commissioners, serving for three-year terms, to effect the administration of county business.<sup>5</sup> The legal status of this administrative body was further defined by legislation enacted four years later<sup>6</sup> which required the board to hold five regular sessions a year<sup>7</sup> and fixed the amount of compensation of the commissioners at \$3.00 for every day spent in the transaction of county business; additionally, the commissioners were allowed five cents per mile for all necessary travel.<sup>8</sup> The same act required the commissioners to take an oath which was to be filed in the office of the county clerk, and provided that they should receive their commissions from the Governor. At the December session in each year the board members were to elect one of their number chairman. Two members were constituted a quorum to do business.<sup>9</sup> The administration of county affairs in St. Clair County was vested in the board of county commissioners from 1873 to 1883 in which year township organization was adopted.<sup>10</sup> At present the board of supervisors transacts county business.

Since 1874 population has been recognized as a factor in local representation on the board of supervisors. In that year, each town or city,

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1. L.1849, p. 192; L.1851, p. 38.
  2. L.1849, p. 202-4; L.1851, p. 50-52.
  3. L.1849, p. 202; L.1851, p. 51. In 1861 it was provided that special meetings could be called upon request of one third of the members of the board (L.1861, p. 236). Since 1899 two regular meetings have been required to be held by the board (L.1899, p. 363).
  4. Constitution of 1870. Art. X, sec. 5.
  5. Ibid., Art. X, sec. 6. The terms of the commissioners were staggered to permit the addition to the board of one new commissioner annually. To inaugurate this procedure, two of the first three commissioners to be elected were to serve shortened terms of one and two years respectively, the choice to be determined by lot.
  6. L.1873-74, p. 79,80.
  7. L.1873-74, p. 79. Special sessions could be called by the chairman or any two members of the board.
  8. L.1873-74, p. 79.
  9. Ibid.
  10. St. Clair county adopted township organization in 1883, but was not effective until 1884.

County Board

besides its regular supervisor, became entitled to one assistant supervisor if it had four thousand or more inhabitants, two if sixty-five hundred, and one more for every additional twenty-five hundred.<sup>1</sup> In 1931, these population requirements were made to affect only those counties having less than one hundred thousand inhabitants; in all counties (Cook County excepted), any town or city became entitled to one assistant supervisor for every five thousand inhabitants, or major fraction thereof, contained within its boundaries.<sup>2</sup> The differentiating figure was reduced in 1933 to ninety thousand.<sup>3</sup> St. Clair County with it's population of 157,775 in 1930 was not affected by the latter change.<sup>4</sup> Its board at present is composed of forty-five members. The assistant supervisors, whose terms run concurrently with those of the regular supervisors,<sup>5</sup> have no powers or duties as town officers, but are members of the county board and enjoy the same powers and rights as other members.<sup>6</sup> The term of office of supervisors, lengthened in 1889 to two years,<sup>7</sup> was further extended in 1931 to four years.<sup>8</sup> Compensation was increased from \$1.50 to \$5.00 a day in 1919,<sup>9</sup> lowered to \$4.00 in 1933,<sup>10</sup> and raised again to \$5.00 in 1937,<sup>11</sup> with an allowance of five cents per mile for necessary travel.

The functions of the Illinois county board, in contrast to its legal status, have undergone little change since the beginning of statehood, the development being merely one of accretion and increasing complexity of duties within a well-defined and nearly static sphere of authority and jurisdiction. The law establishing the court of county commissioners conferred upon it jurisdiction in all matters concerning county revenue.<sup>12</sup> Of this basic provision, nearly all other statutory powers of the court can be considered extensions; some, enunciated in the same law, already show such a legislative viewpoint. The court was given power to regulate and impose the county tax, and to grant such licenses as might also bring in a revenue; additionally, it was given authority over all public roads, canals, turnpike roads, and toll bridges.<sup>13</sup> Other legislation by the first General Assembly gave the court power to buy and sell lots whereon to erect county buildings and to contract for their construction;<sup>14</sup> later, in the case of the courthouse at least,

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1. R.S.1874, p. 1075.
  2. L.1931, p. 908.
  3. L.1933, p. 1116.
  4. Population Bulletin, Illinois U.S.Census 1930, p. 31.
  5. L.1933, p. 1115.
  6. R.S.1874, p. 1080; L.1925, p. 605; L.1929, p. 774; L.1931, p. 905,907; L.1933, p. 1115.
  7. L.1889, p. 109; L.1917, p. 793; L.1925, p. 605.
  8. L.1931, p. 905.
  9. L.1849, p. 203; L.1857, p. 186; L.1871-72, p. 444; L.1919, p. 569.
  10. L.1933, p. 615.
  11. L.1937, p. 601.
  12. L.1819, p. 175.
  13. Ibid.
  14. Ibid., p. 237,238.



County Board

the court was declared to have care and custody of the property and the right to make certain disposition of it.<sup>1</sup> Care of the indigent was also made a function of the court; it was required to make appropriations, to be levied and collected in the same manner as other county revenue, for their support. As an extension of this fiscal function, it was required to appoint an overseer of the poor in every township and establish a county poorhouse if necessary.<sup>2</sup> Fiscal control over school lands was exercised at first solely through the court's power of appointment of the trustees of school lands;<sup>3</sup> after the creation of the office of county school commissioner,<sup>4</sup> firmer control was effected through the medium of reports which the commissioner was required to submit to the court.<sup>5</sup> By the terms of another early provision, a significant precursor of many similar ones to be found in more recent years, the court also had authority to examine the full accounts of the commissioner.<sup>6</sup> Other aspects of government which, if farther removed from the fiscal core, come early into this jurisdictional sphere, are elections and juries. With regard to the former, the court was authorized to establish election precincts,<sup>7</sup> appoint judges of election,<sup>8</sup> and allow compensation to election officials for services and stationery.<sup>9</sup> Its duty with regard to juries was relatively simple; it was required to select two panels each of petit and grand jurors. The former were required to be enrolled on the list of taxable inhabitants; the latter, only to be freeholders or householders.<sup>10</sup> The court's early and brief jurisdiction over probate matters<sup>11</sup> is not part of its history as a county board.

The substitution of the county court for the county commissioners' court produced no important changes in the sphere of government; neither the second constitution nor the enabling legislation made any original pronouncements with regard to the powers or duties of the former.<sup>12</sup>

The revised law on township organization, in the main, only made more inclusive and definite the powers of the board.<sup>13</sup> The board was

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1. L.1843, p. 128.
  2. L.1819, p. 127; L.1839, p. 138,139.
  3. R.L.1827, p. 366.
  4. R.L.1829, p. 150.
  5. L.1831, p. 175; R.S.1845, p. 500,501.
  6. L.1831, p. 175.
  7. L.1821, p. 74. There was in this law and many of those following, a limit to the number of precincts which could be established. See L.1825, p. 168; R.L.1827, p. 255; R.L.1829, p. 54; L.1835, p. 141. Prior to 1821, each township was declared by statute to constitute an election district (L.1819, p. 90).
  8. L.1819, p. 90.
  9. Ibid., p. 99.
  10. Ibid., p. 255; L.1823, p. 182.
  11. L.1819, p. 19-22,223-30,301; L.1821, p. 119,121.
  12. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 65.
  13. The act of February 17, 1851, previously cited (L.1851, p. 35-78).

County Board

given authority to purchase and hold any land within the county, for the use of its inhabitants; it was also given authority to make such contracts, and to purchase and hold such personal property as might be necessary to the exercise of its powers; moreover, it could make such orders for the disposition, regulation, or use of the corporate property as might seem to the interest of the inhabitants.<sup>1</sup> Explicit also, was the authority to audit all claims against the county, and the accounts of such officers as were not otherwise provided for by law.<sup>2</sup> The board was also given power to appropriate funds for the construction of roads and bridges in any part of the county whenever a majority of the whole board might deem it proper and expedient.<sup>3</sup>

From the enabling legislation of the present constitutional period is drawn the following brief statement of the principal functions of the county board:

1. The purchase, sale, and custody of the real and personal property of the county.
2. Examining and settling accounts against the county.
3. Issuing orders on the county treasury in pursuance of its fiscal administration.
4. Examining accounts concerning the receipts and expenditures of county officers.<sup>4</sup>
5. Supervision of elections;<sup>5</sup> the selection of juries;<sup>6</sup> the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges;<sup>7</sup> the care of the indigent, infirm, and disabled.<sup>8</sup>
6. Appropriating funds necessary to the effecting of its functions;<sup>9</sup> raising such sums through taxation; and in general, the management of county funds and county business.<sup>10</sup>

At all times the county board has had a clerk who has served it in a ministerial capacity. The law creating the county commissioners' court provided that it should have such an officer, and gave it the power to appoint him.<sup>11</sup> This appointive power was rescinded in 1837 by an act which made the office elective.<sup>12</sup>

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1. L.1851, p. 50.
  2. Ibid., p. 51.
  3. Ibid.
  4. R.S.1874, p. 306,307.
  5. Ibid., p. 456,468.
  6. Ibid., p. 630.
  7. Ibid., p. 310.
  8. Ibid., p. 757,758.
  9. Ibid., p. 307.
  10. Ibid., p. 306,307.
  11. L.1819, p. 175.
  12. R.L.1837, p. 49.

County Board

When the county court supplanted the county commissioners' court, the office of clerk of the latter body ceased to exist. A new office was created by statute, that of clerk of the county court.<sup>1</sup> When the court sat for the transaction of county business, its clerk was in effect a clerk of a county board; legal recognition of this distinction was given in the provision that the clerk should keep his records of the court's administrative actions separate from those of its judicial actions. For this purpose two sets of books were to be kept.<sup>2</sup>

In 1870 the new constitution established the office of county clerk;<sup>3</sup> subsequently, the General Assembly provided that the county clerk should act as clerk of the county board<sup>4</sup> as well as clerk of the county court.<sup>5</sup> From that time to the present, the county board has been served in a ministerial capacity by this officer.

The major record kept by the clerk for the county board is the minutes of its proceedings. This heterogeneous record includes orders to issue warrants on the county treasury; the board's consideration of the action on reports of committees of its members on roads and bridges, indigent and infirm relief, schools, taxation, etc.; and its orders in regard to juries; licenses, and other matters within its jurisdiction.<sup>6</sup>

The clerk also keeps, separately, a register of orders issued on the county treasury and lists of jury venire; files and preserves all bills of accounts acted on by the board; and has custody of reports required to be made to the board by the county treasurer, various school bodies, and a number of county officers.<sup>7</sup> An obligation to preserve a multiplicity of other records is clearly set forth in the general provision requiring the clerk to have the care and custody of all papers appertaining to, as well as filed in, his office.<sup>8</sup>

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1. L.1849, p. 63.
  2. Ibid., p. 66.
  3. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
  4. R.S.1874, p. 322.
  5. Ibid., p. 260.
  6. L.1819, p. 5,6,28,77,127,334,335,352; L.1823, p. 145,148; L.1826, p. 130,131; R.L.1829, p. 126,132-37,151-53; L.1831, p. 89,90; L.1835, p. 131,132,136; L.1839, p. 71,72; R.S.1845, p. 287,342,403,437; L.1849, p. 66; L.1861, p. 234-37; R.S.1874, p. 323.
  7. L.1819, p. 201,315; L.1825, p. 147; R.L.1827, p. 366; L.1845, p. 169; R.S.1845, p. 136; L.1861, p. 237; R.S.1874, p. 325.
  8. R.S.1874, p. 322.



Proceedings of Board  
(See also Appendix, M and N)

1. SUPERVISOR PROCEEDINGS (Files), 1894--. 194 f.b. (544-1079 not consecutive).

Original papers concerning proceedings of the county board, including communications, officers' and committees' reports, resolutions, petitions, bills and claims, financial statements, tax levies, county budgets, and minutes of meetings. Also contains Salaries of County and Probate Judges, 1894-1925, entry 3; (County Clerk's Reports), 1894-1903, entry 23; Sheriff's Reports, 1894-1903, entry 24; Recorder of Deeds Reports, 1894-1905, entry 25; Reports of Circuit Clerk, 1894-1905, entry 26; Treasurer's Reports, 1894-1907, entry 27; Probate Clerk's Semiannual Report, 1894-1915, entry 29; and Jail Reports, Poor House Reports, 1894--. Appendix B. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

2. RESIGNATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS, 1906--. 1 f.b. (539).

Letters of resignation of township officers, showing name and address of officer, name of office, signatures of notary public and county clerk, date of resignation, and remarks. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

3. SALARIES OF COUNTY AND PROBATE JUDGES, 1926--. 1 f.b. (729).

1894-1925 in Supervisor Proceedings (Files), entry 1.

Lists of salaries paid to county and probate judges, showing name of judge, amount of salary, date of payment, and signatures of county clerk, auditor, and committee on claims. Arr. chron. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

4. SUPERVISORS' RECORD, 1796--. 36 v. (1-5, A-G, 1-24). Title varies: County Record, 1796-1821; County Court Record, 1822-29, 1837-1880; County Commissioner's Court Record, 1830-36, 1881-84.

Record of proceedings of county board, showing date of session, names of chairman and members of board, communications, committees' reports, resolutions on petitions, county officers' reports, action on claims, all other transactions of county business, and adjournment. Also contains Insanity Record, 1853-75, entry 181, and Accounts Payable, 1885-1902, entry 377. The first volume 1 contains a transcript of Record of Orphans' Court, entry 223. Arr. chron. No index. 1796-1884, hdw.; 1885--. hdw. and typed. 300 - 600 p. 14 x 18 x 2 - 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . V. 1-5, A-G, 1798-1884, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 1-24, 1885--. co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Disposition of Accounts  
(See also entries 1, 3, 4, 363-372, 376-396)

Bills and Claims (See  
also entry 402)

5. CLAIMS, 1917--. 192 f.b. (7-1119 not consecutive). Claims filed against county funds for maintenance of courthouse, county farm, jail, and detention home, showing number of claim, itemized account of expenses, oath of dealer, and signatures of committee on claims, auditor, and county clerk. Also contains Motor Fuel Tax Claims, 1932-35, entry 433. Arr. by claim no. No index. Nature of recording varies. 11 x 5 x 18. 73 f.b., 1917-29, museum vlt., bsmt.; 119 f.b., 1930--, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Registers of County Orders

6. DUPLICATE WARRANTS, 1908--. 37 v. Title varies: County Warrants. Duplicate county warrants showing date, amount, and number of warrant, purpose of payment, name of payee, and name of fund from which drawn. Arr. by warrant no. No index. 1908-27, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1928--, typed on pr. fm. 200 - 700 p. 17 x 19 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  - 24 x 15 x 4. 30 v., 1908-17, common vlt., bsmt.; 3 v., 1918-27, museum vlt., bsmt.; 4 v., 1928--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

7. DUPLICATE WARRANTS, COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND, 1925--. 5 v. Title varies: County Highway Fund Orders. Duplicate county warrants issued on highway fund, showing date, amount, and number of warrant, name of payee, and purpose of payment. Arr. by warrant no. No index. 1925-27, hdw. on pr. fm; 1928--, typed on pr. fm. 200 - 600 p. 17 x 14 x 1 - 24 x 15 x 4. 4 v., 1925-27, museum vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1928--, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

8. WARRANT REGISTER, 1928--. 1 v. 1862-1927 in Record of County Orders, entry 379. Register of county warrants, showing date, amount, and number of warrant, fund drawn upon, name of payee, purpose of payment, and date of cancellation. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 800 p. 24 x 15 x 6. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Cancelled County Orders

9. STATE'S ATTORNEY'S VOUCHERS, 1914--. 1 f.b. (735). Cancelled vouchers of money paid to state's attorney's office, showing date, amount, and number of voucher, itemized account of office expenses, and signatures of auditor and committee on claims. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

10. WARRANTS FOR CIRCUIT COURT PETIT JURORS, 1905-34. 4 f.b. Discontinued. Cancelled warrants for petit jury service, showing date, amount, and number of warrant, name of juror, number of days of service, mileage, and signature of circuit clerk. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 23 x 10 x 5. Common vlt., bsmt.

County Board - Management  
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(11-17)

11. COUNTY WARRANTS (Stub Books), 1908-28. 73 v. Discontinued. Stubs of county warrants, showing warrant number, name of payee, and date, amount, and purpose of payment. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 17 x 4 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

12. WARRANTS FOR MOTHERS' PENSIONS, 1914--. 8 f.b. Cancelled warrants for mothers' pensions, showing name of mother, date, number, and amount of warrant, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 23 x 10 x 5. Common vlt., bsmt.

13. RECORD OF VOUCHERS FOR MOTHERS' PENSION, 1914--. 18 v. Stubs of mothers' pension vouchers, showing names of mother and child or children, date, number, and amount of voucher, and signature of mother. Arr. by voucher no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 499 p. 12 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1. 16 v., 1914-27, museum vlt., bsmt.; 2 v., 1928--, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Pension Funds and Applications (See  
also entries 206-208, 393-395)

14. PENSION RECORD ST. CLAIR COUNTY, 1862-64. 1 v. Discontinued. Record of pensions allowed war widows, showing name of widow, amount of pension, number of dependent children, and date of payment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of widow. Hdw. 431 p. 13 x 8 x 1. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

15. BLIND PENSIONERS, 1933--. 7 lists. Pension lists of blind persons, showing name and address of pensioner, date of examination, and amount of pension granted. Arr. alph. by name of pensioner. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 8 x 15. Off. of co. examiner of blind, rm. 314, Murphy Bldg., East St. Louis.

Management of County Property  
(See also entry 131A2)

Deeds to County Property

16. DEEDS TO COUNTY REAL ESTATE, 1844--. 1 f.b. (493). Leases, deeds, and mortgages for various county properties, showing names of grantor and grantee, description of property, consideration, date of instrument, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Proposals, Bids, and Contracts

17. PLANS FOR STEAM HEATING SYSTEM OF COUNTY JAIL, 1919. 4 plans. Construction plans showing profile for installation of heating system, construction practice to be followed, and type of materials to be used. Draftsman, E. P. Bradley, St. Louis, Missouri. Blueprint. 1/8 in. to 1 ft. 24 x 30. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.



Bond Issues (See also  
entries 122, 397, 398)

18. BOND ISSUE, 1910--. 1 f.b. (547).

Copies of bonds issued for building and improvement of school buildings, showing name and school district number, amount, date, and terms of bond, rate of interest, date of maturity, and signature of secretary of board of education. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm.  
11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Insurance

19. INSURANCE POLICIES, 1937--. 1 f.b. (486).

Policies on properties insured by county, showing name and address of insurance company, description of property insured, policy number, amounts of policy and premium, and date of expiration. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Motor Fuel Tax Allotments  
and Road Transactions

20. COUNTY HIGHWAY SETTLEMENT FUND (Files), 1934--. 1 f.b. (1).

Payrolls drawn upon motor fuel tax fund, showing name, address, and title of employee, length of time employed, date and amount of payment, total amount of payroll, signatures of workers, county superintendent of highways, auditor, and committee on claims. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

21. STATE-AID ROADS IN ST. CLAIR COUNTY, 1916--. 16 plans.

Profile and cross-section drawings showing material specifications and construction details of state-aid roads. Draftsman and engineer, D. O. Thomas. Hand-drawn. 30 x 45. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Petitions and Correspondence

22. PETITION TO PLACE STATE'S ATTORNEY ON SALARY BASIS, 1904-7.

1 f.b. (504). Discontinued.

Petitions to board of supervisors to grant state's attorney permanent salary, showing name and address of petitioners, and dates of petition and submittal to voters. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm.  
11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl,

Reports to Board  
(See also entries 1, 4, 131A1, 373, 399)

23. (COUNTY CLERK'S REPORTS), 1904--. 4 f.b. (380-383).

1894-1903 in Supervisor Proceedings (Files), entry 1.

County clerk's semiannual reports to the county board, showing itemized list of receipts and expenditures, balance available, dates of receipt or disbursement, report, and filing, and acknowledgment of county auditor. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

24. SHERIFF'S REPORTS, 1904--. 4 f.b. (394-397). 1894-1903 in Supervisor Proceedings (Files), entry 1.

Annual report of sheriff on receipts and expenditures of his office, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt or expenditure, record book and page of entry, oath and signature of sheriff, and date of acknowledgment. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 12 x 4 x 14. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

25. RECORDER OF DEEDS REPORTS, 1906--. 5 f.b. (406, 413, 415-417). 1894-1905 in Supervisor Proceedings (Files), entry 1.

Recorder's monthly reports of receipts and disbursements, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt or disbursement, total receipts and disbursements, balance available, oath and signature of recorder, and date of filing. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

26. REPORTS OF CIRCUIT CLERK, 1906--. 4 f.b. (408-410, 412). 1894-1905 in Supervisor Proceedings (Files), entry 1.

Circuit clerk's semiannual report of receipts and expenditures, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt or expenditure, total receipts and expenditures, balance available, oath and signature of circuit clerk, acknowledgment, and dates of report and filing. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

27. TREASURER'S REPORTS, 1908--. 6 f.b. (387, 418, 425, 432, 439, 446). 1894-1907 in Supervisor Proceedings (Files), entry 1.

Monthly reports of county treasurer, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipts or disbursements, balance in treasury, oath and signature of treasurer, and acknowledgment. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

28. FINANCIAL REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICERS, 1920--. 1 f.b. (518).

Reports of treasurer and custodians of public funds, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipts or disbursements, total amount of receipts and disbursements, balance available, oath and signature of treasurer or custodian, acknowledgment, and dates of report and filing. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

29. PROBATE CLERK'S SEMIANNUAL REPORT, 1916--. 6 f.b. (401-405, 4011). 1894-1915 in Supervisor Proceedings (Files), entry 1.

Semiannual report of probate clerk, showing total amount of receipts and disbursements of his office, date and purpose of receipt or disbursement, oath and signature of clerk, and dates of oath and filing. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

30. ANNUAL COAL REPORTS, 1926--. 12 folders.

Duplicate copies of annual reports of county mine inspector to board of supervisors, showing name and location of mine, number of employees, operating and nonoperating days, itemized account of coal sales, tonnage, and safety measures observed. Arr. chron. No index. Printed. 6 x 6. Off. of mine inspector, bsmt., 811 St. Clair Ave., Bolleville, Illinois.

## 31. REPORTS FOR ST. CLAIR MINES INSPECTION, 1926--. 3 v.

Duplicate copies of monthly reports submitted to board of supervisors by county mine inspector, showing dates of report and inspection, condition of mine, percent of safety measures observed, and name and location of mine. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 200 p. 14 x 10 x 1. Off. of mine inspector, bsmt., 811 St. Clair Ave., Belleville.

32. MONTHLY REPORTS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKHOUSE, 1930--.  
101 folders.

Duplicate copies of monthly reports of superintendent of workhouse to board of supervisors, showing date, number of hours worked, itemized account of rock quarried and sold, type and condition of implements and tools, and number of injuries. Arr. chron. No index. Typed. 14 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Off. of supt. of workhouse, 1st fl., St. Clair County Workhouse, West F Street, Belleville.

## 33. DETENTION HOME (Files), 1934--. 6 f.b. (852, 962, 981, 982, 1051, 1109).

Reports of probation office expenses, with itemized accounts of salaries and of detention home funds, showing date, amount and type of expenditure, date and number of claim, signatures of probation officer, auditor, and committee on claims, and dates of filing and payment. Arr. chron. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

## 34. RECORD OF PATIENTS, 1935--. 4 f.b.

Duplicate copies of report record of patients treated by county physician, showing names of patient and physician, date of treatment, nature of disease, and date and number of prescription. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 12 x 26. Off. of co. physician, 16 N. High Street, Belleville.

## Jury Lists

(See also entries 178, 265, 268, 274,  
276, 297, 298, 321, 328, 330)

35. JURY LISTS, 1885--. 9 v. (4 not numbered, 3-7). Missing:  
1894-1901.

Register of jurors selected, showing names and addresses of jurors, dates of selection and drawing, name of court, mileage, and number of days of service. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. 4 v. not numbered, v. 3, 4, 1885-1925, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 5-7, 1926--, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.



## II. COUNTY CLERK

Forerunner of the present county clerk was the clerk of the county commissioners' court.<sup>1</sup> The county commissioners' court was the county administrative body in St. Clair County from 1819 to 1849.<sup>2</sup> The Constitution of 1848 and laws of 1849 created a new judicial branch of county government presided over by the county judge and entitled the "county court," and provided for the quadrennial election of a "clerk of the county court."<sup>3</sup> In addition to his duties as clerk of the judicial court, the incumbent was also to act as clerk of the administrative branch of government which consisted of the county judge and two justices of the peace sitting at special terms.<sup>4</sup>

The above-mentioned clerks performed the duties of county clerk as well as those of clerks of a judicial or administrative body. In fact, legislation frequently referred to these incumbents as "county clerks" when defining duties relating to county business as distinct from duties as clerks of judicial or administrative bodies. The Constitution of 1870 specifically provided for a county clerk,<sup>5</sup> who has continued to act to the present in this capacity, and also as clerk of the county board,<sup>6</sup> and clerk of the county court.<sup>7</sup> The revised statutes of 1874 adopted the use of a distinction of titles for each of his ex-officio capacities, applying the

- 
1. The territorial laws, under which St. Clair County functioned as a territorial county from 1790 until 1818, did not establish the office of county clerk, but the various bodies which exercised administrative duties in the county were served by clerks. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, ed. Theodore Calvin Pease in Illinois Historical Collections, v. XVII (Springfield: Illinois State Historical Library, 1925), Law Series, I, 37, 215, 485, 489. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, ed. Francis S. Philbrick in Illinois Historical Collections, v. XXI (Springfield: Illinois State Historical Library, 1930), Law Series, II, 78, 79. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 116, 117. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, ed. Nathaniel Pope (Kaskaskia: Matthew Duncan, July 4, 1915), II, 345, 349.
  2. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4; L.1819, p. 175.
  3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16, 18, 19; L.1849, p. 63.
  4. L.1849, p. 65, 66.
  5. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 18 and Art. X, sec. 8.
  6. R.S.1874, p. 322.
  7. Ibid., p. 260.

## County Clerk

title "county clerk" only when referring to his duties as such. It is the performance of those duties that gives rise to the records dealt with in this section.

The clerk was an appointee of the county commissioners' court from 1819 to 1837.<sup>1</sup> In the latter year the office became elective for a four-year term;<sup>2</sup> a two-year term became effective in 1847.<sup>3</sup> A bond of \$1,000 was set.<sup>4</sup> The clerk of the county court served a four-year term and was bonded in the sum of \$3,000.<sup>5</sup> The Constitution of 1870 and the revised statutes of 1874, establishing the office of county clerk, provided for his election for a quadrennial term, and that the amount of his bond be set by the county board.<sup>6</sup> The bond is entered upon the records of his office, and deposited with the clerk of the circuit court. He is required to take oath, and is commissioned by the Governor.<sup>7</sup> The county seal is kept by the clerk and used by him when required.

In general, the county clerk's performance of his functions results in records relating to the following: taxation, vital statistics, licenses, and bonds. Various officials and agencies having authority over these matters report to, or deposit records with, the county clerk who in this manner acts as a coordinating factor in the execution of local and state affairs. In regard to other of these matters, the clerk is required to perform duties on his own behalf and retain the records resulting from such performance.

Illustrations of both of these procedures may be found by examining the various duties and records relating to taxation. It is the duty of the county clerk to procure all books and blanks used in the assessment and collection of taxes, and to list the lands and lots subject to taxation.<sup>8</sup> The books are then turned over to the supervisor of assessments who has the township assessors enter the valuations against each piece of property

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1. L.1819, p. 175.
  2. R.L.1847, p. 49.
  3. L.1845, p. 28.
  4. L.1819, p. 176,177; R.L.1833, p. 143; R.S.1845, p. 131.
  5. L.1849, p. 63,64.
  6. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; R.S.1874, p. 321.
  7. R.S.1874, p. 321.
  8. L.1867, p. 106; L.1871-72, p. 19,32; L.1903, p. 297. During the period of the first constitution such books and lists were prepared by the auditor of public accounts and turned over to the clerk of the county commissioners' court (L.1825, p. 173; R.L.1827, p. 329; L.1839, p. 3,4; L.1847, p. 80).

County Clerk

listed. The supervisor completes revisions and corrections upon complaint of property owners and returns the books in duplicate to the county clerk.<sup>1</sup> In 1920 the supervisor of assessments was superseded by the board of assessors. This board carries on all duties previously performed by the supervisor of assessments.<sup>2</sup> Personal property assessments are handled in essentially the same manner. The board of review then makes adjustments on complaints and equalizes assessments between districts, certifying corrections and revisions to the county clerk.<sup>3</sup> The county clerk then reports the entire assessment list to the state tax commission for equalization, the equalized list then being used by the county clerk in ascertaining tax rates and extending taxes.<sup>4</sup>

The state tax commission also certifies to the county clerk the assessments of the capital stock of corporations and railroad and telegraph companies, it being the duty of the clerk to extend these taxes and retain the books after use by the collector.<sup>5</sup>

The books are next turned over to the county collector who, after collection, returns lists of collections, together with lists of uncollected real and personal property taxes.<sup>6</sup> The county clerk attends all tax sales, prepares a list of all sales and issues duplicate reports thereof, records affidavits of purchases of property for taxes, and keeps a record known as the "tax judgment, sale, redemption, and forfeiture record."<sup>7</sup>

An extensive group of vital statistics records is kept by the county clerk, including records relating to births and deaths, marriages, physicians, and midwives. The first legislation in regard to the keeping of

- 
1. The first assessment officer was the county treasurer (L.1819, p. 315; R.L.1827, p. 328-36). In 1839 this function was performed by the district assessors, who received from the county clerk copies of the auditor's transcripts (L.1839, p. 3,4). The treasurer resumed these duties in 1844 (L.1843, p. 231), retaining them until the adoption of the township organization in 1883 saw the township assessors acting in each township (L.1849, p. 192). The treasurer acted as ex-officio supervisor of assessments from 1898 to 1920 (L.1898, p. 36-44).
  2. The act of 1898 provided for the election of a board of assessors in all counties of one hundred and twenty-five thousand inhabitants (L.1898, p. 37). St. Clair County attained the population requirement in 1920. Population Bulletin Illinois, U.S.Census 1930, p. 31.
  3. L.1898, p. 36-44.
  4. L.1919, p. 723.
  5. L.1871-72, p. 11,13,16; L.1937, p. 1011,1012.
  6. L.1849, p. 124,125; L.1871-72, p. 55; L.1931, p. 759. In 1821 the auditor of public accounts was charged with the collection of taxes on nonresidents' lands (L.1821, p. 182).
  7. L.1839, p. 3; L.1871-72, p. 48; L.1879, p. 250.



County Clerk

vital statistics was included in the act for the establishment of medical societies.<sup>1</sup> One section of this act made it the duty of every physician to keep a record of births, deaths, and diseases occurring within the vicinity of his practice, and to transmit such record to his medical society, whereupon the record was to be published in the newspapers. In 1842 it was provided that a parent could appear before the clerk of the county commissioners' court and make affidavit as to the birth of a child, and the eldest next of kin of a deceased person could similarly appear and make affidavit as to death.<sup>2</sup> The first law, 1819, required no public record to be kept, and the 1842 law provided that affidavits "may" be made, however, birth reports have been kept in St. Clair County since 1804 and death records since 1854. The act of 1877 creating the State Board of Health required that all births and deaths in the county be reported to the county clerk by the attending physicians and accoucheurs supervising such events.<sup>3</sup> Teeth were put into this and subsequent laws by providing penalties for noncompliance. In 1901 death certificates issued by physicians, midwives, or coroners, were to be presented to town clerks who issued burial permits and forwarded the certificates to the county clerk.<sup>4</sup> In 1903 certificates of death were to be turned over to the State Board of Health, which board, in turn, delivered to the county clerk all certificates so received.<sup>5</sup> In 1915 it was provided that for the registration of all births, stillbirths, and deaths outside any city, village, or incorporated town, the township clerks should deposit a complete set of such records with the county clerk who was charged with the binding and indexing, or recording, and safe keeping of such records.<sup>6</sup> From the earliest date, the legislation in regard to these matters provided that the clerk retain the abstracts and certificates, keep a record of births and deaths, maintain alphabetical indexes, and issue certified copies of certificates upon request. The clerk has also been required to prepare a register of all physicians and accoucheurs in the county.<sup>7</sup>

From 1819 the county clerk, or clerk of the county commissioners' court, has been required to file marriage certificates and certificates of parents' consent to the marriage of minors.<sup>8</sup> In 1827 the clerk was required to keep a separate register of marriages in addition to his file of certificates.<sup>9</sup> Before 1877 persons desiring to marry were required to secure licenses from the county clerk only when they had not previously published such intention, but in that year the securing of a license was

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1. L.1819, p. 233.
  2. L.1842-43, p. 210-12..
  3. L.1877, p. 209.
  4. L.1901, p. 302,303.
  5. L.1903, p. 315-18.
  6. L.1915, p. 660.
  7. L.1877, p. 209.
  8. L.1819, p. 27.
  9. R.L.1827, p. 289.

County Clerk

made mandatory.<sup>1</sup> Although a record of applications for marriage licenses has been kept by the clerk in this county since 1869, an act of 1937 appears to be the first legislation requiring the maintenance of such a record.<sup>2</sup> The same act provides that persons desiring to marry shall present to the county clerk a certificate setting forth that such persons are free from venereal diseases, such certificates to be filed with the application for license to marry.<sup>3</sup> Indexes to marriage records have been kept in St. Clair County since 1878.

The county clerk is charged with a number of duties relating to elections, such as preparing and issuing blank ballots,<sup>4</sup> poll books,<sup>5</sup> and certificates of election,<sup>6</sup> and keeping a record of registers of elections,<sup>7</sup> petitions,<sup>8</sup> marked ballots,<sup>9</sup> tally sheets,<sup>10</sup> and election returns which are transmitted to him by the judges of election.<sup>11</sup> Abstracts of returns were formerly prepared by the clerk, but these are now originated by the election commissioners or judges of election and deposited with the clerk. Returned ballots are destroyed by the clerk six months after election provided no contest in which the ballots are needed is in progress.<sup>12</sup> In 1889, when returns of elections for school trustees were made to the county clerk, he was charged with furnishing to the county superintendent of schools a list of all such trustees.<sup>13</sup> Now the clerk does not enter into the procedure, the school trustees canvassing the returns and certifying directly to the superintendent of schools.<sup>14</sup>

The bonds of a number of officials are required to be transmitted to the clerk for filing and entering in a book maintained for that purpose.<sup>15</sup> Justices' of the peace and constables' oaths, bonds, and securities are approved by the clerk and entered in a separate book in accordance with statutory requirement. This book shows the date on which each justice of

- 
1. L.1877, p. 130.
  2. L.1937, p. 909.
  3. Ibid., p. 910.
  4. L.1891, p. 113; L.1911, p. 311.
  5. L.1871-72, p. 386.
  6. L.1819, p. 96; L.1821, p. 79; L.1823, p. 64; L.1885, p. 176.
  7. L.1865, p. 59; L.1871-72, p. 386.
  8. L.1911, p. 310,311; L.1929, p. 422.
  9. L.1891, p. 118.
  10. L.1885, p. 143.
  11. L.1819, p. 86; L.1821, p. 77; L.1823, p. 64; L.1871-72, p. 96.
  12. L.1917, p. 444.
  13. L.1889, p. 271,322.
  14. L.1909, p. 352.
  15. R.S.1845, p. 396,397; L.1861, p. 237,238; R.S.1874, p. 325; L.1895, p. 188.

## County Clerk

the peace and constable was sworn into office and the date of commission by the Governor. Resignations from these offices are made to the county clerk who enters such fact in the justices' and constables' record.<sup>1</sup>

The clerk is also charged with issuing licenses to taverns,<sup>2</sup> ferries,<sup>3</sup> etc., and keeping records of the same. Other records kept are those relating to estrays;<sup>4</sup> registers of professionals, including physicians,<sup>5</sup> midwives,<sup>6</sup> dentists,<sup>7</sup> chiropodists,<sup>8</sup> and veterinarians;<sup>9</sup> list of county officers; list of town officers which is furnished annually by the town clerk;<sup>10</sup> record of notaries public;<sup>11</sup> and book of state civil service rules.<sup>12</sup> Referring to his list of town officers, the county clerk reports annually to the State Department of Public Health the names and addresses of the supervisor, assessor, and clerk of each township, and the dates of expiration of their terms of office.<sup>13</sup>

Included in the provision that the county clerk be charged with the care and custody of all records, books, and papers appertaining to, and filed or deposited in, his office<sup>14</sup> are those duties as clerk of the board, wherein he is required to record the proceedings of the board and to file all their books, records, and accounts.<sup>15</sup> The clerk is also required to keep jury lists<sup>16</sup> and a book in which he enters details as to orders upon the treasurer. He is further required to maintain alphabetical indexes to all records and papers in his office, and to supply copies of these records or papers to any person upon request and payment of the required fee.<sup>17</sup>

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1. L.1895, p. 188.
  2. L.1819, p. 77-79; L.1933-34, Second Sp. Sess., p. 64-66.
  3. R.L.1827, p. 221; R.S.1874, p. 530.
  4. L.1819, p. 206,207; R.S.1874, p. 483.
  5. L.1877, p. 203; L.1899, p. 275; L.1923, p. 441,442.
  6. Ibid.
  7. L.1881, p. 79; L.1899, p. 273; L.1909, p. 279; L.1933, p. 711.
  8. L.1899, p. 280; L.1935, p. 995.
  9. L.1917, p. 591.
  10. L.1861, p. 226; R.S.1874, p. 1077.
  11. L.1871-72, p. 575; R.S.1874, p. 721; L.1875, p. 88.
  12. L.1905, p. 115.
  13. L.1923, p. 480.
  14. R.S.1874, p. 322.
  15. L.1861, p. 238; R.S.1874, p. 322.
  16. R.S.1874, p. 630.
  17. Ibid., p. 321.



## Taxation

(See also entries 1, 177, 338-362, 442, 445, 446)

Lists of Taxable Property, Levies

36. TAX LEVIES, 1910--. 10 f.b. (474, 484, 491, 498, 505, 512, 519, 526, 533, 540).

Certificates of levy for town tax with attached ordinance, showing names of town or village, amount needed, description of property, total sum to be levied, certified statement of board of trustees and town clerk, and dates of levy and filing. Arr. by date of levy. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

37. REVENUE BOOK (Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted), 1848--. 9 v. (3 not lettered, A-F).

Docket of tax rates and amounts wanted, showing names of cities and villages, township and tax district numbers, valuation of lands, lots, and personal and railroad property, total valuation, rate, date, and amount of levy, and total tax levy. Arr. chron. No index. 1848-94, hdw.; 1895--, hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 350 p. 16 x 14 x 3. 3 v. not lettered, 1847-62, museum vlt., 1st fl.; v. A, B, 1863-77, common vlt., bsmt.; v. C-F, 1878--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

38. ASSESSOR'S BOOKS, 1840--. 1869 v.

Assessor's lists of taxable real and personal property, including assessment of capital stock of corporations and associations subsequent to 1860, showing name of owner, description of property, assessed and equalized values, tax spread, and total tax. Personal property arr. alph. by name of owner; real estate arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. 1840-49, hdw.; 1850--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 100 - 460 p. 17 x 15 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 17 x 15 x 3. 1453 v., 1840-1926, common vlt., bsmt.; 337 v., 1927-34, bd. of assrs. - bd. of review rm., bsmt.; 79 v., 1935--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

39. CAPITAL STOCK ASSESSMENT, 1923--. 1 f.b. (506).

Assessment of capital stock of incorporated companies and associations as reported by state tax commission, showing date, name and address of company or association, amount of capital stock assessed, and amount of tax. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

For record of capital stock assessments, see entry 38.

40. RAILROAD (Telegraph and Telephone) ASSESSOR'S BOOK, 1873--. 61 v.

List of taxable property belonging to railroad companies, 1873--, telegraph companies, 1873-83, 1914--, and telephone companies, 1914--, showing name of company, date, miles of track, value of right of way, rolling stock, poles and equipment, value as listed by company, equalized and assessed values as fixed by county and state board, tax rate, amount of back tax, tax spread, and total tax. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of company. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 138 p. 15 x 18 x 2. 44 v., 1873-1919, common vlt., bsmt.; 12 v., 1920-32, museum vlt., bsmt.; 5 v., 1933--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

41. TELEGRAPH (and Telephone) TAX, 1884-1913. 2 v.

List of taxable telephone and telegraph property, showing name of company, value of poles and equipment as listed by company, equalized and assessed values as fixed by county and state board, tax rate, amount of back tax, total tax, and tax spread. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of twp. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 51 p. 16 x 11 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Common vlt., bsmt.

For prior and subsequent telegraph tax records and subsequent telephone tax record, see entry 40.

42. ANNUAL CERTIFICATES OF TAXES EXTENDED, 1896--. 3 f.b. (478, 485, 513).

Certificates of tax extension, showing name of owner, date, statement of owner, statement of assessment and taxes charged, description of property, tax spread, amount of tax extension, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., bsmt.

43. TAXES (Statement of Assessments), 1898--. 2 f.b. (278, 285).

Statement of assessments made by county clerk, showing date, amount of personal property and real estate, listed and assessed values, total assessed value, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., bsmt.

44. ABSTRACT AND ASSESSMENT OF TAXES, 1908--. 2 v.

Certified statements of total valuation of all property listed for taxation in the county and the amount of taxes charged thereon, showing date, class and valuation of property, valuation as assessed, corrected, and equalized by the board of review, amounts of forfeited property, state tax, local bonds registered with State of Illinois, and county, township, city, village, school, and miscellaneous taxes. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 14 x 2. 1 v., 1908-27, co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.; 1 v., 1928--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

45. REPORT ON EAST SIDE LEVEE AND SANITARY DISTRICT, 1907--. 29 report sheets.

Statements of assessment for maintenance of east side levee and sanitary district, showing legal description of property, name of owner, rate of tax, assessed valuation, and total amount of assessment. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 20 x 20. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

46. (Special) ASSESSMENT ROLL OF EAST ST. LOUIS, ST. CLAIR COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1, 1913. 1 v.

List of property assessed in St. Clair sewer district number one, showing date, name of owner, legal description of property, assessed value, value as equalized by county and state boards, and rate of taxation. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 21 x 18 x 2. Museum vlt., bsmt.

47. SPECIAL ASSESSMENT EAST ST. LOUIS SEWER IMPROVEMENT, 1925. 2 v. Record of special assessments for sewer improvements, showing date, name of owner, legal description of property, and amount of assessment. Arr. chron. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 100 p. 14 x 9 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Common vlt., bsmt.

48. BELLEVILLE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT SEWER IMPROVEMENT, 1923-28. 1 bdl. Assessment roll for Belleville sewer improvement, showing date, name of owner, legal description of property, and amount of assessment. Arr. chron. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 15 x 9 x 6. Common vlt., bsmt.

49. OUTLET SEWER ASSESSMENT ROLL - LINCOLN PLACE, 1919. 1 v. Record of delinquent tax installments for Lincoln Place outlet sewer, showing name of owner, legal description of property, assessed value, amount of taxes, dates, and amount and period of delinquency. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 14 p. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 25 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Common vlt., bsmt.

50. WEST END SEWER DISTRICT ASSESSMENT BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS, 1914. 1 v. Record of sewer assessments, showing dates, amount of assessment, name of owner, legal description of property, amount of payments, and balance due. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 96 p. 18 x 25 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Common vlt., bsmt.

51. OUTLET SEWER - BELLEVILLE IMPROVEMENT, SPECIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT AND ASSESSMENT ROLL, 1905. 1 v. Special assessment roll and report for sewerage improvements of Belleville, showing date, name of property owner, legal description of property, and amount and date of assessment. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 160 p. 18 x 26 x 5. Common vlt., bsmt.

52. ASSESSMENT ROLL, 1931. 1 bdl. Published assessment roll showing name of owner, subdivision number, legal description of property, assessed valuation, and date and amount of tax due. Arr. by subdivision no. No index. Printed. 10 x 14 x 4. Common vlt., bsmt.

53. LAND BOOK, 1814-53. 1 v. Discontinued. List of taxable lands, including a list of swamp lands for 1850, and list of school lands 1842, showing date, names of owner and township, section and range numbers, legal description of lands, and amount of tax. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 300 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

54. AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, 1877-79. 2 v. Discontinued. Farm census used for taxation purposes, showing date, names of township, town, or village, and owner, amount of acreage, number of bushels of farm crops, value of livestock, and signature of assessor. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 18 x 15 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Common vlt., bsmt.



Collections, Abatement

## 55. COLLECTOR'S BOOKS, 1840--. 1829 v.

Record of taxes collected on all real and personal property, showing name of owner, description of property, assessed and equalized values, tax spread, total tax, and amount and date of payment. Also contains Abstract of Taxes Extended, 1840-1936, entry 56. Personal property arr. alph. by name of owner; real estate arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. 1840-1910, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1911--, hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 460 p. 17 x 16 x 2½. 1570 v., 1840-1930, museum vlt., bsmt.; 134 v., 1931-34, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.; 125 v., 1935--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

## 56. ABSTRACT OF TAXES EXTENDED, 1937--. 1 v. 1840-1936 in Collector's Books, entry 55.

Abstract of footings of collector's books, showing volume and page of entry, name of township, amount of taxes collected on lands, lots, and personal property, total assessed value, tax spread, and total tax. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 17 x 19 x 2. Co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

## 57. COUNTY COLLECTOR'S CREDIT (Certificates of Final Settlement), 1913--. 1 f.b.

Certificates of final settlement by county collector, showing date, names of auditor of public accounts and collector, rate of taxation, total amount of taxes collected, amount of uncollected taxes, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

## 58. DISTRIBUTION OF BACK TAXES, 1873-1915. 2 v. (1 not numbered, 3).

Missing: 1879-82. 1916-- in Delinquent Tax Sales, entry 74.

Record of distribution of back taxes, showing name of owner, legal description of property, date, amount of back taxes collected, and tax spread. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 16 x 2. 1 v. not numbered, 1873-78, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 3, 1883-1915, museum vlt., bsmt.

## 59. PUBLISHED DELINQUENT TAX LISTS (Files), 1915--. 4 f.b. (527, 534, 541, 548).

Published list of delinquent taxes, showing name of owner, legal description of property, amount of delinquent taxes, and date of notice. Arr. chron. No index. Printed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

## 60. DELINQUENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LIST, 1906-32. 224 v. Discontinued.

Lists of delinquent special assessments, showing name of owner, legal description of property, assessed value, amounts of taxes, costs, and interest, tax spread, and date and amount of payment. Arr. alph. by name of sub-division. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 10 x 18 x 1. 126 v., 1906-8, 1923-32, museum vlt., bsmt.; 98 v., 1909-22, common vlt., bsmt.

61. DELINQUENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT, BELLEVILLE, JEFFERSON SEWER IMPROVEMENT, 1926-28. 9 v. (5-7, 1926; 1, 2, 8, 9, 1927; 3, 4, 1928).

List of delinquent special assessments for Belleville, Jefferson sewerage system, showing name of owner, amount of delinquent assessment, legal description of property, and period of delinquency. Arr. alph. by name of twp. Indexed alph. by name of owner. 1926, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1927-28, typed under pr. hdgs. 200 p.  $17\frac{1}{2}$  x 10 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Common vlt., bsmt.

62. DELINQUENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RETURNS - NORTH BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT, 1922-24. 4 v.

Lists of delinquent special assessments on property in North Boulevard improvement district, showing date, name of owner, legal description of property, and amount of delinquent taxes. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 30 p. 15 x 17 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Common vlt., bsmt.

63. OUTLET SEWER DELINQUENT LIST, 1921. 1 v.

List of delinquent special assessments for outlet sewer, showing name of owner, description of property, date, amount due, and period of delinquency. Arr. alph. by name of twp. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Typed on pr. fm. 185 p. 17 x  $9\frac{1}{2}$  x 1. Museum vlt., bsmt.

64. DELINQUENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RETURN - OUTLET SEWER DISTRICT OF E. ST. LOUIS, 1919-22. 1 v.

Record of delinquent special assessments on installments ten to thirteen of the East St. Louis sewer district, showing name of owner, date, time and amount of delinquency, name of payee, legal description of property, and amount of unpaid balance. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Typed. 200 p.  $10\frac{1}{2}$  x 17 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

65. WINSTANLEY PARK SEWER, 1919. 1 v.

List of delinquent special tax assessments for sewer improvement, showing names of owner and subdivision, legal description of property, date, amount of installment, assessment and interest, and total tax and interest due. Arr. alph. by name of subdivision. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Typed under pr. hdgs. 100 p. 17 x  $9\frac{1}{2}$  x 1. Museum vlt., bsmt.

66. REBATED ASSESSMENT ROLL, O'FALLON SANITARY DISTRICT NO. 1, 1924. 1 v.

Record of rebates made to property owners on assessments for O'Fallon sanitary district number one, showing name of owner, number, date, amounts of assessment and rebate, and legal description of property. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 36 p. 20 x 16 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

67. TAX RECEIPTS, 1916--. 5 f.b. (379, 386, 393, 400, 407).

Duplicate receipts for taxes paid on special improvements, showing date, name of owner, legal description of property, amount of taxes, installments and interest, total amount due, and signature of treasurer. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

68. TAX RECEIPTS, 1923---. 10 bdl.

Receipts for taxes paid under protest and deposited pending appeal, showing name and address of owner, amount, number, and date of receipt, and legal description of property. Arr. by receipt no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 8 x 7 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 10 x 7 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

69. SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, 1919-20. 2 v. (1,2).

Record of special assessment receipts and disbursements for improvements, including sewerage, lights, paving, and sidewalks, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt or disbursement, names of payee and payer, and total receipts and disbursements. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 17 x 14 x 2. Museum vlt., bsmt. -

Judgment, Sale, Redemption

70. AFFIDAVIT OF TAX DEEDS, 1913---. 19 f.b. (391, 419, 422-424, 426, 428-431, 435-438, 442-445, 451). Prior records destroyed.

Tax deed affidavits showing name of purchaser, consideration, legal description of property, and signatures of owner and county clerk. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

71. RECORD OF AFFIDAVITS FOR TAX DEED, 1852---. 8 v. (A-H).

Copies of affidavits for tax deeds, showing date and place of sale, names of purchaser and owner, legal description of property, total tax, interest and costs, date of affidavit, and signatures of treasurer and county clerk. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of purchaser. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

72. TAX JUDGMENT, SALE, REDEMPTION, AND FORFEITURE RECORD, 1827---. 96 v. Missing: 1842, 1845, 1855-61, 1878, 1883, 1887, 1896, 1903, 1905, 1908. Title varies: Tax Judgment and Sale Records.

Record of tax judgments, sales, redemptions, and forfeitures, showing names of owner, redeemer, and purchaser, legal description and value of property, amounts of taxes, costs, and penalties due, dates of judgment, sale, redemption, deed, and certification by county clerk. Also contains Tax Sale Special Assessments, 1827-1907, entry 73. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 360 - 500 p. 16 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 23 x 3 - 16 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 4. 35 v., 1827-1906, common vlt., bsmt.; 61 v., 1907---, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

73. TAX SALE SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS, 1908---. 28 v. 1827-1907 in Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, entry 72.

Record of tax judgments, sales, redemptions, and forfeitures for all delinquent special assessments, showing names of owner, redeemer, and purchaser, legal description and value of property, amounts of taxes, penalties due, and costs, dates of judgment, sale, redemption, and deed, and certification by county clerk. Arr. alph. by name of twp. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Typed. 500 p. 17 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 3. Museum vlt., bsmt.



74. DELINQUENT TAX SALES, 1869--. 105 v. Missing: 1876-1914. Lists of delinquent taxes, showing name of owner, legal description and assessed value of property, amount of taxes, costs, and interest, tax spread, and date and amount of payment. Also contains Distribution of Back Taxes, 1916--, entry 58. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 323 p. 18 x 13 x 3. 96 v., 1869-1926, common vlt., bsmt.; 9 v., 1927--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

75. SPECIAL ASSESSMENT AND SALE, 1920-30. 5 bdl. List of delinquent special assessments on sewer improvements, including a record of property sold for taxes due in East St. Louis, showing name of owner, date of sale, legal description of property, and amount of assessment due and realized from sales. Arr. chron. No index. Typed. 14 x 9 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 17 x 11 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

76. REDEMPTION CERTIFICATES (Files), 1920--. 4 f.b. (509, 516, 523, 530). Land redemption certificates showing names of owner and redeemer, date and number of certificate, legal description of property, amounts of taxes, penalties, advertising costs, clerk's fees, and interest due, book and page of entry in redemption record, and signature of clerk. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

77. REDEMPTION CERTIFICATES, 1933--. 3 v. Register of land redemptions, showing name of owner or redeemer, legal description of property, amounts of taxes, penalties, costs, and interest due, and date and amount of redemption. Arr. ohron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 89-221 p. 8 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 8 x 8 x 1. Museum vlt., bsmt.

Maps and Plats  
(Used for taxation purposes)

78. SCHOOL DISTRICT 133, 134, 180, 181, 182, 184, 185, 189, 1934-35. 10 plats. Maps of school districts 133, 134, 180, 181, 182, 184, 185, and 189, showing location of school and boundary lines of districts. Draftsman, J. E. Weinell. Hand-drawn. 1 in to 500 ft. 26 x 19. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

79. SCHOOL DISTRICT 189, 1935. 1 map. Map of school district 189, showing location of school property, boundaries of district, and acreage. Draftsmen, J. E. Weinell, R. F. Kock. Sear-Ko Engineering Co., publisher. Printed. 1 in to 500 ft. 36 x 40. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

80. SCHOOL DISTRICT 181, 1935. 1 map. Map of school district number 181, including a description of the boundary lines, and location of school property. Blueprint. 24 x 24. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

81. SCHOOL DISTRICT 188, 1935. 1 map. Map of school district 188, showing location of school and boundary lines of district. Blueprint. 48 x 36. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

82. ST. CLAIR AVENUE, 1934. 8 maps.

Detailed construction map of proposed improvements of St. Clair Avenue from Tenth Street to the V and C Railroad tracks, showing date, exact description of improvement, necessary grading and excavating, locations of sewer and water mains, manholes, sidewalks, and pavement. Draftsman engineer, R. Koch. Sear-Ko Engineering Co., publisher. Blueprint. 11 in. to 250 ft. 36 x 40. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

83. SCHOOL DISTRICT 190, 1935. 2 maps.

Maps of school district 190, showing boundary lines, legal description of lands, and location of schools. Printed. 84 x 54 - 36 x 24. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

84. RESUBDIVISION OF SIGNAL POINT, 1935. 1 map.

Political map of Signal Point resubdivision of lots 15, 16, and 19-47, showing number, location, and legal description of lots and blocks, locations of streets, sidewalks, sewer and water mains, gas lines, and manholes, and names of property owners. Blueprint. 36 x 40. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

85. ST. CLAIR COUNTY, ILLINOIS, 1884. 1 map.

Communication map of St. Clair County, showing boundaries, locations of roads, telephone and telegraph lines, railroads, creeks, ponds, valleys, lakes, elevations, and swamps. Author, G. F. Hilgard. Belleville, Illinois: H. E. Schrader & Co., publisher. Printed. 3/4 in. to 1 mi. 52 x 51. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

86. PLATS OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS, 1874--. 1 v.

Plat record of school districts made by county surveyor, showing number, location, acreage, and description of district, date of division of district, location of school building, and name of surveyor. Arr. by twp. no. No index. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 150 p. 24 x 38 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

87. VILLAGE OF WASHINGTON PARK, no date. 1 plat.

Communication plat of the village of Washington Park, showing locations of street car lines, railroads, streets, alleys, and boundary lines. Hand-drawn. 12 in. to 1 mi. 30 x 40. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Vital Statistics

Births (See also entry 127)

88. INDEX TO REGISTER OF BIRTHS, 1877--. 5 v. (A-E).

General index to birth records and files, showing name of child, book and page of entry, and certificate and file box numbers. Arr. alph. by name of child. 1877-1919, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1920--, typed under pr. hdgs. Volume C, 1912-19, poor condition. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

89. BIRTH REPORTS (Certificates), 1804--. 60 f.b. (1-22 with repetitions, 1 not numbered).

Birth certificates showing certificate number, date and place of birth, names of child, parents, and midwife or physician, personal and statistical particulars, address of physician, signatures of physician and county clerk, and dates of certificate and filing. Arr. by certificate no. 1804-76, no index; for index, 1877--, see entry 88. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

90. REGISTER OF BIRTHS, 1877--. 22 v. (1-22).

Register of births, showing certificate number, place and date of birth, names of child, parents, and physician or midwife, personal particulars of parents, number of children of mother, signatures of physician and county clerk, and date of filing. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 88. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

91. BIRTH AND DEATH RECORD (Affidavits), 1856-82. 1 v. Discontinued.

Record of affidavits of births and deaths, showing names of person and witnesses, dates of birth or death, and date and number of affidavit. Arr. by affidavit no. No index. Hdw. 500 p. 12 x 8 x 2. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Deaths (See also entry 127)

92. INDEX TO REGISTER OF DEATHS, 1877--. 4 v. (A-D).

General index to death records and files, showing name of deceased, book and page of entry, and certificate and file box numbers. Arr. alph. by name of deceased. 1877-1919, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1920--, typed under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

93. DEATH REPORTS (Certificates), 1854--. 43 f.b. (1-16 with repetitions, 1 not numbered).

Certificates of death, showing place, cause, and date of death, registration and primary district numbers, personal and statistical particulars, names of deceased, physician, undertaker, and informant, place of burial, medical certificate of death, certificate number, and signature of county clerk. Arr. by certificate no. 1854-76, no index; for index, 1877--, see entry 92. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

94. REGISTER OF DEATHS (Record), 1877--. 16 v. (1-16).

Copies of death certificates, showing names of deceased, parents, physician, and undertaker, date, place, and cause of death, personal particulars, date and number of certificate, and date of filing. Also contains Proof of Death, 1883--, entry 95. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 92. Hdw. on pr. fm. 460 p. 17 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.



95. PROOF OF DEATH, 1870-82. 2 v. (A, B). 1883-- in Register of Deaths (Record), entry 94.

Record of proof of death, showing names of deceased and petitioner, age of deceased, date and place of death, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. on pr. fm. 448 p. 16 x 14 x 2. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

96. VETERANS' GRAVE RECORD, 1935--. 1 v.

Burial record showing name of veteran, personal and occupational particulars, cause of death, and date and place of burial. Arr. alph. by name of veteran. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 16 x 10 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

### Stillbirths

97. STILLBIRTHS( Certificates), 1877--. 4 f.b. (751, 757, 763, 769).

Certificates of stillbirth, showing names of child, parents, physician, and undertaker, place, cause, and date of stillbirth, registration and primary district numbers, personal and statistical particulars, undertaker's certificate, place and date of burial, name and address of registrar, and date of filing. Arr. by certificate no. For index, see entry 98. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

98. REGISTER OF STILLBIRTHS, 1877--. 3 v. (1-3).

Register of stillbirths, showing names of child, parents, physician, and undertaker, cause, date, and place of stillbirth, personal and statistical particulars, number of children of mother, date and number of certificate, file box number, and date of filing. Also acts as an index to Stillbirths (Certificates), entry 97. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of parents. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 - 300 p. 18 x 13 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 18 x 13 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

### Marriages

99. INDEX TO MARRIAGES, 1878--. 9 v. (A-I).

General index to marriage records and files, showing names of bride and groom, book and page of entry, and file box and application numbers. Arr. alph. by name of bride and groom. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 20 x 14 x 3. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

100. MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS, 1869--. 116 v.

Copies of marriage license applications, showing name, age, addresses of male and female, date, application number, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. 1869-77, indexed alph. by name of male and female; for sep. index, 1878--, see entry 99. 1869-77, hdw.; 1878--, hdw. on pr. fm. 15 v., 1928-36, condition poor. 350 p. 16 x 12 x 3. 100 v., 1869-1927, common vlt., bsmt.; 16 v., 1928--, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

101. MARRIAGE LICENSE (Files), 1790--. 100 f.b. (10 not labeled, A-K with repetitions, 6A, 1-17 with repetitions).

Marriage licenses returned to county clerk, showing names of bride, groom, witnesses, and official performing ceremony, personal and statistical particulars, date and place of marriage, date and number of license, book and page of entry, and dates of return and filing. Arr. by license no. 1790-1877, no index; for index, 1878--, see entry 99. 1790-1848, hdw.; 1849-- hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

102. (MARRIAGE LICENSE STUBS), 1926--. 97 v.

Stubs of marriage licenses, showing names of applicants, date and place of birth of bride and groom, license number, and date of issue. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 17 x 14 x 1. 38 v., 1926-29, common vlt., bsmt.; 51 v., 1930-34, museum vlt., bsmt.; 8 v., 1935--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

103. REGISTER OF MARRIAGES, 1877--. 19 v. (1-19).

Record of marriages, including those of minors with affidavits and consent of parents or guardian, showing names of bride, groom, parents, person performing ceremony, and witnesses, and personal and statistical particulars, place of marriage, dates of license, ceremony, return of license, and registration. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 99. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 14 x 10 x 1. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

104. MARRIAGE RECORDS, 1791-1877. 12 v. (4 lettered A-I, 7 lettered respectively A-D, E, F, G, G, H, H, 1791-1877; I, 1874-77). Title varies: Marriage Register. Discontinued.

Register of marriages, showing dates of license and marriage, license number, names of bride and groom, name of person performing ceremony, and date of return of license. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of male. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 100 - 250 p. 14 x 10 x 1 - 14 x 8 x 2. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

105. MARRIAGE RECORD (Minor), 1874-77. 1 v. (J).

Record of marriage of minors, including affidavits and consent of parents or guardian, showing names of minors, parent or guardian, and county clerk, personal particulars, number and date of license, and dates of ceremony, return of license, and registration. Arr. by license no. Indexed alph. by name of minor. Hdw. on pr. fm. 410 p. 16 x 8 x 2. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

For prior marriage records for minors, see entry 104; for subsequent marriage records for minors, see entry 103.

#### Licenses and Registers

##### Registers of Officers

106. REGISTER OF OFFICERS, 1857--. 3 v. (2-4).

Register of county officers, showing name and address of officer, names of sureties and township, date of election or appointment, term of office, and date and amount of bond. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of officer. 1857-99, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1900--, typed under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Professional Licenses and Registers

107. REGISTER OF PHYSICIANS' CERTIFICATES, 1873--. 3 v. (A, 2, 3). Register of certificates of persons practicing medical and other professions, including those of physicians, 1873--; midwives, 1873-1926; dentists, 1884--; veterinarians, 1889--; chiropodists, 1930--; chiropractors and osteopaths, 1928--; and architects, 1897--. Each registration shows name, age, and nativity of licensee, date of registration, school of practice, nature of certificate, and signature of board. Also contains Register of Nurses, 1910-13 and 1920--, entry 109. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of practitioner. 1873-76, hdw.; 1877-1900, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1901--, hdw. and typed. 200 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s large vlt., bsmt.

108. RECORD OF PHYSICIANS' CERTIFICATES, 1877--. 3 v. (1-3). Copies of state board of health physicians' certificates, showing names of physician, and medical college, dates of graduation and certificate, and signatures of president, secretary, and members of board. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of physician. 1877-1921, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1922--, typed. 425 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

109. REGISTER OF NURSES, 1914-19. 1 v. 1910-13, 1920-- in Register of Physicians' Certificates, entry 107. Register of nurses' certificates, showing name and address of nurse, number and date of certificate, signature of board of examiners, and dates of graduation, registration, and filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of nurse. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 160 p. 18 x 13 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

110. OPTOMETRY REGISTER, 1915-18. 1 v. Discontinued. Register of certificates issued by county clerk licensing the practice of optometry, showing name, age, nativity, and residence of optometrist, school of practice, and date of registration. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of optometrist. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

Patents (See also entry 166)

111. REGISTER OF LETTERS PATENT, 1867-70. 1 v. Discontinued. Register of patents granted for inventions by the patent office at Washington, D. C., showing patent number, name of inventor, type of invention, and date of grant. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 14 x 9 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

Estrays, Marks and Brands (See also entry 165)

112. ESTRAY NOTICES, 1919--. 1 f.b. (546). Last entry 1928. Missing: 1920-21, 1923-27. Files of estray notices, showing name of party taking up estray, date taken up, description of animal, appraised value, and seal and signature of justice of the peace. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.



113. ESTRAY RECORD, 1858--. 2 v. (1 not lettered, A). Last entry 1928.

Record of stray animals, showing names of person taking up estray, appraisers and justice of peace, date taken up and appraised, description of animal, appraised value, and costs. Arr. chron. No index. 1858-76, hdw.; 1877--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1858-76, very poor condition. 150 p. 16 x 12 x 2. 1 v. not lettered, 1858-76, common vlt., bsmt.; v. A, 1877-1928, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

#### Tavern Business

114. LICENSE BOOK, 1910--. 8 v.

Copies of liquor and road house licenses, showing name and address of applicant, dates of petition, bond, payment, and approval of license, type of license, amount of fee, and remarks. Arr. chron. 1910-29, indexed alph. by name of applicant; 1930--, no index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 159 - 500 p. 15 x 13 x 1 - 14 x 8 x 2. Co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

#### Elections

115. ABSTRACT OF ELECTIONS, 1893--. 3 f.b. (503, 510, 517).

Final abstract of votes cast at primary and general elections, showing names of office, candidates, township, and town or village, precinct number, number of votes received by each candidate, total votes cast, and dates of election and filing. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

116. CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE, 1912--. 10 f.b. (482, 489, 496, 503, 510, 517, 524, 531, 538, 544).

Certificates of election judges and clerks, showing place and date of election, names of clerks and judges, abstract of votes, total number of votes cast, signature of county clerk, and dates of election and certificate. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

117. PRIMARY PETITIONS (Files), 1930--. 11 f.b.

Primary election petitions showing names of office, candidate, and party, signatures of petitioners, acknowledgment, and dates of petition and filing. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

118. CANVASS BOOK, 1915--. 22 v.

Record of election returns, including votes cast for special assessments and improvements, showing date, names of candidates and voting precincts, and total votes cast. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 50 p. 36 x 18 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

119. ELECTION RECORD (East St. Louis, Illinois), 1886--. 3 v.  
(2 not numbered, 2).

Record of ballots cast at East St. Louis in local, state, and national elections, showing names of candidate, office, and clerk of election, number of ballots cast, and dates of election and filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of candidate. Hdw. and typed. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

120. GENERAL ELECTION RECORD, 1908--. 1 v.

Record of votes cast at local, state, and national elections, showing names of candidate and office, number of votes received by each candidate, and dates of election and filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of candidate. Typed. 450 p. 15 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

121. POLL BOOKS, 1928--. 2115 v.

Election poll books showing ward and precinct numbers, names of voters, township, city or village, office, and candidates, location of polling place, number of votes received by each candidate, total votes cast, affidavits of judges and clerks, and date of filing. Arr. alph. by name of voter. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 53 p. 14 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Museum vlt., bsmt.

Bonds of Officers  
(See also entries 139, 159, 160)

122. BONDS (Miscellaneous), 1861--. 25 f.b. (441-474 not consecutive, 7 not numbered).

Files of original bonds of county and town officers, including articles of agreement, and collector's, assessor's, and local improvement bonds. Also contains police magistrate bonds, 1897--; appeal bonds, 1913--; bonds of recognizance, 1919--; contractors' bonds, 1918--; (Bail Bonds), 1910--; entry 200; and Bonds, 1861--; see app. C. Arr. by bond no. For index, see entry 123. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. 18 f.b. 441-474 not consecutive, 1861-1928, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.; 7 f.b. not numbered, 1929--; co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

123. BOND INDEX (and Register), 1861--. 3 v. (1-3).

Index to miscellaneous bonds, showing date, kind, and number of bond, name of person bonded, and file box number. Also acts as a register of bonds. Arr. alph. by name of principal. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

124. CONSTABLES' BOND RECORD, 1873-1928. 2 v. (A, B). Discontinued.

Record of bonds and oaths of constables, showing name of officer, date, amount, and condition of bond, names of sureties, term of office, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of constable. 1873-1917, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1918-28, typed on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 13 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

County Clerk - Oaths of Officers;  
Fees, Receipts and Expenditures

(125-130)

125. ASSESSORS' BOND RECORD, 1900-1920. 1 v. Discontinued.  
Copies of assessors' bonds and oaths, showing name of assessor, date, amount, and conditions of bonds, oath of assessor, and names of sureties. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of assessor. Hdw. on pr. fm. 296 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Common vlt., bsmt.

Oaths of Officers  
(See also entries 124, 125, 131B2)

126. OFFICIAL OATHS, 1865--. 1 f.b. (514).  
Oaths of county officers and deputies, showing name of officer, title of office, date of election, and oath and signature of clerk. Also contains oaths of mine examiners, 1909-11. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Fees, Receipts and Expenditures

127. COUNTY CLERK'S ACCOUNT WITH PHYSICIANS AND HEALTH OFFICERS, 1902-13. 1 v. 1914-- in Record of County Orders, entry 379.  
Register of fees paid to physicians and health officers for registering births and deaths, showing name and address of physician or health officer, number of births and deaths reported, total amount of fees, and dates of report and payment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of physician or health officer. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 433 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

128. DUPLICATE COUNTY TREASURER'S RECEIPTS, 1900--. 4 f.b. (481, 488, 495, 502).  
Duplicate receipts issued by county treasurer for money received from county clerk, showing date, number, purpose, and amount of receipt, name of payor, and signature of treasurer. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

129. COUNTY CLERK'S CASH BOOK, 1892--. 11 v. (2 not numbered, 1-9).  
Missing: 1898-99. Title varies: Journal.  
County clerk's journal of receipts and disbursements, including a register of miscellaneous fees, showing date, names of payer and payee, amount of receipts and disbursements, purpose, balance available, and voucher number. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 15 x 10 x 2 - 14 x 16 x 2. 2 v. not numbered, v. 1-5, 1892-1920, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 6-9, 1921--, co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

130. COUNTY CLERK'S VOUCHERS, 1923--. 7 f.b. (480, 487, 494, 501, 508, 515, 522).  
Cancelled checks of county clerk, showing warrant number, names of county clerk, deputy, and party receiving payment, amount and date of payment, statement of account, and signature of bearer. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.



Recorder

Miscellaneous Files

131. MISCELLANEOUS FILES, 1790-1912. 4 f.b. (483, 525, 532, 546).  
Missing: 1879-83.

Miscellaneous documents from various offices filed with or kept by  
county clerk. Contains:

- A. County board papers:
  - 1. Reports of school commissioners, 1833-46.
  - 2. Rules and regulations of county farm, 1884.
- B. County clerk's papers:
  - 1. Delinquent tax lists, 1823-51.
  - 2. Oaths of mine examiners, 1865--.
  - 3. Certificates of election or appointment of police magistrates, 1910-12.
- C. County court papers:
  - 1. Appointment of justices, 1797-1801; appointment of members of court of record, 1790-1811.
  - 2. (Bail Bonds), 1876-78, entry 200.
  - 3. Laws concerning grand jurors, 1810.
- D. Drainage commissioners' papers:
  - 1. (Lists of Swamp Lands), 1844-66, entry 450.

Arr. chron. No index. 1790-1876, hdw.; 1877-1912, hdw. and hdw. on  
pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

III. RECORDER

The recorder of St. Clair County, after Illinois Territory became a state in 1818, was appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the senate.<sup>1</sup> His bond, set at \$1,500, was to be filed with the Secretary of State. In 1829 the amount of bond was reduced to \$500.<sup>2</sup> The office became elective in 1835, for a four-year term, and bond was to be approved by the county commissioners' court.<sup>3</sup> The term was reduced to two years in 1845.<sup>4</sup> With the adoption of the second constitution the office of recorder was abolished, the duties of that office being delegated to the circuit court clerk in an ex-officio capacity.<sup>5</sup> The present constitution reestablished the office of recorder in counties having a population of sixty thousand or more but continued the provision of the prior constitution for other

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- 1. L.1819, p. 19. Prior to 1818, the territorial Governor also appointed the recorder. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809 (1807), II, 288, 290, made effective in Illinois Territory by Laws of the Territory of Illinois (1812), I, 33.
  - 2. R.L.1829, p. 117.
  - 3. L.1835, p. 166.
  - 4. L.1845, p. 28. Effective in 1847.
  - 5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 64.

counties.<sup>1</sup> The population of St. Clair County reached the minimum set by the constitution in 1880 and accordingly, a recorder was elected in that year.<sup>2</sup> The amount of the recorder's bond was set at \$5,000 in 1872, and the county judge was to give approval.<sup>3</sup> This amount was raised in 1874 to \$20,000 for counties having the population of St. Clair.<sup>4</sup> A copy of the bond is entered upon the records of the county clerk.

Assistants and deputies are appointed by the recorder in a number as determined by rule of the circuit court and as entered upon the court record.<sup>5</sup> The compensation of the assistants and deputies is set by the county board. Written oaths of deputies are filed with the Secretary of State.<sup>6</sup>

In accordance with the duty of the recorder to record at length all written instruments, the following records are required to be kept:

1. An entry book in which data relating to date and order of receipt of instruments to be recorded or filed, and the names of parties and location of property, with a brief description of the premises, are entered. Each of such instruments is numbered by the recorder with the corresponding number of the entry. The entry book serves as a table of contents, with descriptive memoranda, for all instruments recorded at length or filed in the recorder's office.
2. Well-bound books for recording at length any instrument in writing entitled to be recorded, in the order of time of its reception. Separate books are allowed to be kept for the recording of different classes of instruments and two distinct series of document numbers may be used for recording documents received to be recorded. One series preceded by the letter "B" is for the recordation of bills of sales of personal property, chattel mortgages, releases, extensions, and assignments thereof. The other series of document numbers is for all other instruments received for recordation.

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; R.S.1874, p. 833.
  2. Tenth Census shows population of St. Clair County 61,806 in 1880. Report on Population of the United States 1880 (Washington), p. 350.
  3. L.1871-72, p. 645.
  4. R.S.1874, p. 833.
  5. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9; R.S.1874, p. 833.
  6. R.S.1874, p. 833.

Recorder

3. Grantor and grantee indexes. In the grantor index are listed the names of the grantors in alphabetical order and the names of the grantees. The grantee index shows the names of the grantees in alphabetical order and the names of the grantors. Each index also shows the date of the instrument, time of receipt, kind of instrument, consideration, book and page of recordation or the number under which it is filed, and a brief description of the premises.  
Indexes to each book of record in which are entered in alphabetical order, the name of each grantor and grantee and page on which the instrument is recorded. This series indexes instruments such as powers of attorney, chattel mortgages, and those recorded by corporations.
5. An index to recorded maps and plats, based on location of property. Sometimes arranged by section, township, and range.
6. An abstract book, in effect indexing records by showing for each tract every conveyance or incumbrance recorded, its execution and filing date, and the book and page of its recordation. Series optional with county board.
7. A separate book to record certificates of honorable discharge from military, aviation, and naval service.<sup>1</sup>

The recorder, in recording at length any instrument in writing, is permitted to make a handwritten or typewritten transcription of the same, or he may make photographic or photostatic reproduction, or to use a combination of these methods.<sup>2</sup> In addition to the instruments received for recordation, the recorder is required upon receipt to file any instrument such as any mortgage, trust deed, or conveyance of personal property having the effect of a mortgage or lien upon such property which is endorsed with the words, "This instrument to be filed, but not recorded." The recorder marks such instrument "filed" and enters the time of receipt and files the same in his office.<sup>3</sup>

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1. L.1819, p. 18,20,21; R.L.1829, p. 116,117; L.1847, p. 69; L.1853, p. 254; L.1867, p. 148; L.1869, p. 2; L.1871-72, p. 645,646; L.1873, p. 144; R.S.1874, p. 834-37; L.1917, p. 652; L.1925, p. 521; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 214.
  2. L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 214.
  3. L.1927, p. 521; L.1929, p. 592-94; L.1933, p. 860.



Entry Books

132. ENTRY BOOK, 1853--. 44 v. (B, B, 42 not lettered).

Entry book of recorded instruments, showing type and number of instrument, date, names of grantor and grantee, legal description of property, consideration, book and page of entry, and date of filing. Also contains Record of Deeds Mailed, 1877--, entry 146. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 14 x 3. V. B, B, 33 not lettered, 1853-1927, common vlt., bsmt.; 9 v. not lettered, 1928--, rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

General Indexes

133. GENERAL INDEX MORTGAGES (and Deeds), 1790-1916. 245 v. (1-245).

Original index to deeds, mortgages, and marginal releases transcribed to new indexes, General Index to Deeds, entry 140, and General Index - Mortgages, entry 147, showing names of grantor, grantee, mortgagor, and mortgagee, legal description of property, kind of instrument, book and page of entry, and dates of filing and recording. Arr. alph. by names of grantor, grantee, mortgagor, and mortgagee. 1790-1854, hdw.; 1855-1916, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 20 x 3. Common vlt., bsmt.

134. INCORPORATION INDEX, 1853--. 2 v. (1, 1 not numbered).

Index to articles of incorporation recorded in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139, and Corporation Record, entry 161, showing type of instrument, name of firm or society, and book and page of entry. Volume not numbered is transcription of volume 1. Arr. alph. by name of corporation. 1853-87, hdw.; 1888--, typed under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

135. MASTER'S SALE REDEMPTION CERTIFICATE INDEX, 1889--. 1 v. (1).

Index to master-in- chancery certificates of sale and redemption recorded in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139, and Sales and Redemption, entry 158, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. 400 p. 18 x 15 x 2. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

136. SHERIFF'S CERTIFICATE OF SALE AND REDEMPTION INDEX, 1922--.

1 v. (1).

Index to sheriff's certificates of sale and redemption recorded in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139, and Sales and Redemption, entry 158, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, and book and page number. Arr. alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 15 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

137. INDEX OF LEVY, 1922--. 1 v. (1).

Index to sheriff's and master's certificates of levy and sale recorded in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. 400 p. 18 x 15 x 2. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Instruments Recorded

General

138. RECORDED INSTRUMENTS NOT CALLED FOR, 1905--. 1 f.b. Instruments left for recording and not called for, including chattel mortgages, quitclaims, warranty and release deeds, and assignments. Arr. chron. No index. Typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 8 x 4 x 14. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

139. MISCELLANEOUS DEED RECORD, 1790--. 546 v. (A-Z, A-F, I, J, A2-Z2, A3-Z3, A4-G4, I4-P4, T4-W4, Y4, Z4, A5, C5-O5, Q5-S5, U5-Z5, 132-890 not consecutive). Title varies: Records. Record of miscellaneous instruments including deeds, mortgages, powers of attorney, releases, bonds, wills, certificates of election of trustees, certificates of stock transfers and increases, and stallion certificates; also contains chattel mortgage extensions, 1891--; Master Deed Record, 1800-1866, entry 141; Record Cemetery Deed, 1800-1873, 1928--, entry 142; Administrators' and Executors' Deeds, 1865-88, 1921--, entry 144; Road Right-of-Way Record (Deeds), 1865-1926, entry 145; Mortgage Record, 1800-1864, entry 148; Release Record, 1800-1888, entry 153; Chattel Mortgage Record, 1800-1864, entry 155; Levy Book, 1922--, entry 157; Sales and Redemptions, 1926--, entry 158; School Treasurers' Bonds, 1881-88, entry 160; Corporation Record, 1853-71, entry 161; Soldiers' Discharge Record (Sailors, Aviators, and Marines), 1927--, entry 164; and Marks and Brands Records, 1845-56, 1895--, entry 165. Arr. chron. For index to all deed records, see entry 140; for index to mortgage records, see entry 147; for additional index to all deed and mortgage records, 1790-1916, see entry 133; for index to corporation record, see entry 134; chattel mortgage records, no index; for index to sales and redemption, see entries 135, 136; for index to levy book, see entry 137; for index to releases, see entry 133; no index to all other miscellaneous instruments. 1790-1864, hdw.; 1865-96, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1897--, typed and typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3 - 18 x 12 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Deeds (See also entry 16)

140. GENERAL INDEX TO DEEDS, 1790--. 41 v. (A-Z with repetitions). Index to deed records showing names of grantor and grantee, book and page of entry, legal description of property, kind of instrument, and dates of filing and recording. Arr. alph. by names of grantor and grantee. Typed under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 20 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

141. MASTER DEED RECORD, 1867--. 10 v. (X4, 135, 201, 210, 276, 366, 428, 537, 626, 852). 1800-1866 in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Record of master-in-chancery deeds, showing names of master, grantee, and recorder, dates of filing and recording, legal description of property, date and number of instrument, and consideration. Arr. chron. For index, see entries 133, 140. 1867-1911, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1912-- typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

142. RECORD CEMETERY DEED, 1874-1927. 1 v. 1800-1873, 1928-- in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Record of deeds to cemetery lots, showing date, names of cemetery, grantor, and grantee, number, location, and legal description of lot, consideration, and date of recording. Arr. chron. For indexes, see entries 133, 140. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

143. TRUST DEED RECORD, 1873-1904. 3 v. (T5, 137, 184). 1865-72, 1905-- in Mortgage Record, entry 148.

Record of real estate trust deeds, showing names of grantor, grantee, and trustees, date of instrument, legal description of property, and consideration. Arr. chron. For indexes, see entries 133, 147. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

144. ADMINISTRATORS' AND EXECUTORS' DEEDS, 1889-1920. 1 v. 1865-88, 1921-- in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Record of deeds for property sold by administrators and executors of estates, showing date, names of estate, heirs, administrator or executor, and grantee, legal description of property, consideration, and date of recording. Arr. chron. For indexes, see entries 133, 140. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

145. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY RECORD, (Deeds), 1927--. 3 v. (692, 792, 797). 1865-1926 in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Record of right-of-way deeds for public roads and highways, showing date, names of grantor and grantee, legal description of property, consideration, and date of recording. Arr. chron. For indexes, see entries 133, 140. Typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

146. RECORD OF DEEDS MAILED, 1865-76. 1 v. 1877-- in Entry Book, entry 132.

Register of deeds mailed to various individuals and corporations, showing name and address of person or corporation, and date of mailing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of grantee. Hdw. 600 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

#### Mortgages - Real Estate

147. GENERAL INDEX - MORTGAGES, 1790--. 40 v.

Index to mortgage records and marginal releases, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, legal description of property, kind of instrument, book and page of entry, and dates of filing and recording. Arr. alph. by names of mortgagor and mortgagee. Typed under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 20 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.



148. MORTGAGE RECORD, 1865--. 256 v. (H4, Q4, R4, S4, B5, P5, 138-891 not consecutive). 1800-1864 in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Record of real estate mortgages and marginal releases, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, legal description of property, amount and terms of mortgage, and dates of filing and recording. Also contains Trust Deed Record, 1865-72, 1905--, entry 143; Building and Loan Association Mortgage Record, 1885-1909, 1927--, entry 149; Citizen Mortgage Record, 1885-1904, 1921--, entry 150; Title Mortgage Record, 1894-1906, 1920--, entry 151; and Assignment of Mortgages, 1865-1905, entry 152. Arr. chron. For indexes, see entries 133, 147. 1865-1900, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1901--, hdw. and typed and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

149. BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION MORTGAGE RECORD, 1910-26. 2 v. (413, 586). 1885-1909, 1927-- in Mortgage Record, entry 148.

Record of real estate mortgages held by building and loan associations, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date and number of instrument, legal description of property, consideration, obligations, and dates of instrument and recording. Arr. chron. For indexes, see entries 133, 147. 1910-18, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1919-26, typed on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

150. CITIZEN MORTGAGE RECORD, 1905-20. 1 v. 1885-1904, 1921-- in Mortgage Record, entry 148.

Record of mortgages held by Citizens Savings and Trust Company, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, consideration, obligations, legal description of property, and dates of instrument and recording. Arr. chron. For indexes, see entries 133, 147. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

151. TITLE MORTGAGE RECORD, 1907-19. 1 v. 1894-1906, 1920-- in Mortgage Record, entry 148.

Record of real estate mortgages held by State Savings and Loan Association, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, legal description of property, consideration, obligations, date and number of instrument, and date of filing. Arr. chron. For indexes, see entries 133, 147. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

152. ASSIGNMENT OF MORTGAGES, 1906--. 8 v. (339, 453, 512, 599, 653, 749, 818, 876). 1865-1905 in Mortgage Record, entry 148.

Record of assignment of mortgages, showing names of assignor and assignee, date and conditions of assignment, consideration, description of property or chattels, and dates of filing and recording. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 147. 1906-17, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1918-22, hdw. and typed on pr. fm.; 1923--, typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

## 153. RELEASE RECORD, 1889--. 52 v. (207-881 not consecutive).

1800-1888 in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Recordation of release of mortgages on real estate, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, legal description of property, consideration, terms of release, and dates of instrument and recording. Also contains Corporation Release Records, 1889-1904, entry 154. Arr. chron. For index, see entries 133, 147. 1889-1917, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1918--, typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

## 154. CORPORATION RELEASE RECORDS, 1905--. 11 v. (355, 496, 605, 674, 718, 750, 783, 806, 829, 857, 887). 1889-1904 in Release Record, entry 153.

Recordation of mortgages released by corporations, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, consideration, conditions, legal description of property, and dates of release and recording. Arr. chron. For index, see entries 133, 147. 1905-22, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1923--, typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Mortgages - Chattel

## 155. CHATTEL MORTGAGE RECORD, 1865--. 225 v. (1-177, 180-227).

1800-1864 in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Recordation of chattel mortgages and bills of sale, showing dates of instrument and recording, names of mortgagor, mortgagee, and witnesses, description of property, consideration, obligations, and acknowledgment. Arr. chron. For index, 1865-84, see entry 147, for index, 1885--, see entry 156. 1865-1927, hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm.; 1928--, typed and typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. 1-177, 1865-1928, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 180-227, 1929--, rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

## 156. CHATTEL MORTGAGE INDEX, 1885--. 24 v. (1-11, 13 not numbered).

Index to chattel mortgage records and to liens on chattels, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of instrument, consideration, and book and page of entry in record. Arr. alph. by name of mortgagor. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2. V. 1-11, 1885-1924, common vlt., bsmt.; 13 v., 1925--, rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Certificates of Levy

## 157. LEVY BOOK, 1842-1921. 2 v. (A, B). 1922-- in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Recordation of master's and sheriff's certificates of levy on attachments and executions of nonresidents, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, master or sheriff, purchaser, and county collector, certificate number and date, legal description of property, acknowledgment, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. and typed. 400 p. 16 x 14 x 2. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

158. SALES AND REDEMPTION, 1847-1925. 8 v. (A-H). 1926-- in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Recordation of sheriff's and master's certificates of sale and redemption, showing date and number of certificate, names of plaintiff, defendant, master or sheriff, purchaser, and county collector, date, amount, and place of sale, legal description of property, acknowledgment, names of witnesses to redemption, consideration, and dates of filing and redemption. Arr. chron. 1847-1925, indexed alph. by name of plaintiff; for sep. index to sheriff's certificates, 1922-25, see entry 136; for sep. index to master's certificates, 1889-1925, see entry 135. 1847-62, hdw.; 1863-70, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1871-1925, hdw., typed and hdw., and typed on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Bonds of Officers (See  
also entries 122-125)

159. COLLECTORS' BOND RECORD, 1884--. 2 v. (A, B).

Copies of collectors' bonds, showing date, amount, number, and obligations of bond, names of collector and sureties, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of collector. 1884-1921, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1922--, typed on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

For prior record of collectors' bonds, see entry 122.

160. SCHOOL TREASURERS' BOND, 1889--. 2 v. (214, 595). 1881-88 in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Copies of school treasurers' bonds, showing names of treasurer, sureties, and school, date, amount, and conditions of bond, acknowledgment, and date of recording. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of treasurer. 1889-1917, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1918--, typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 15 x 10 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Other Instruments

161. CORPORATION RECORD, 1872--. 28 v. (1-23, 719, 24-27). 1853-71 in Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Recordation of articles of incorporation, showing name of corporation or society, dates of incorporation and filing, names and addresses of officers and directors, total capital stock, and date of recording. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 134. 1872-1904, hdw.; 1905--, typed. 600 p. 14 x 9 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

162. STALLION REGISTRATION RECORD, 1910--. 1 v.

Record of stallion certificates and certificate renewals, showing date and number of certificate, names of owner, examiner, and breeder, name and description of stallion, dates of foaling, expiration of license, and renewal, registration number and date, signature of board secretary, and date and time of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 324 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

For other stallion certificates, see entry 139.



163. FARM NAME REGISTER, 1915--. 1 v.

Register of farm names, showing owner's name and address, name and location of farm, legal description of property, and date of registration. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

164. SOLDIERS' DISCHARGE RECORD (Sailors, Aviators, and Marines).  
1861-1926. 4 v. (1-4). 1927-- in Miscellaneous Deed Record,  
entry 139.

Copies of honorable discharges issued to soldiers, sailors, aviators, and marines, showing name, rank, and serial number of veteran, nature of service, place of birth, age, personal description, occupation before entering service, term of service, reason for discharge, military record, name of commanding officer, and date of discharge. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of veteran. 1861-1918, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1919-- , hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

165. MARKS AND BRANDS RECORDS, 1857-94. 1 v. 1845-56, 1895-- in  
Miscellaneous Deed Record, entry 139.

Recordation of marks and brands of various corporations and stock breeders, showing description of mark or brand, names of corporation and cattle breeder, and dates of filing and recording. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of corporation or breeder. Hdw. 430 p. 13 x 9 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

166. PATENT RECORD, 1869. 1 v. Discontinued.

Recordation of patents applied for, showing names of attorney and applicants, amount of fee, patent number, date of filing, and seal of recorder. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of applicant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Common vlt., bsmt.

Maps and Plats

167. INDEX TO PLATS, 1836--. 3 v.

Index to recorder's plats, and Surveyor's Record, entry 441, showing date of filing, plat number, book and page of entry, and kind of plat, Arr. alph. by title of plat. Typed under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 16 x 4. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

168. RECORD OF PLATS, 1854--. 40 v. (2 not labeled, A-Z, 27-38).

Recorded plats of cities, subdivisions, tracts, roads, mines, and townships, showing boundaries, road right of ways, streets, block and lot numbers, names of owners, location of farms, legal description of land, number of acres in each tract, and dates. 20 chains to an inch. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 167. Printed, blueprint, photostat, and hand-drawn. 55 - 60 p. 26 x 39 x 3 - 31 x 24 x 3. Rec.'s off., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

169. RECORD OF COAL MINE PLATS, 1883--. 2 v.

Recorded plats of coal mines, showing location and name of mine, boundaries of coal rights, main haulage ways, air courses, overcasts, trapdoors, slate falls, sumps, partings, outline of rooms and entries worked out and to be worked, locations of first aid stations, surveyor's name, and dates of survey and filing. 1 in. to 80 ft., 1 in. to 100 ft. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 170. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 200 p. 40 x 30 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

170. INDEX TO COAL MINE PLATS, 1883--. 2 v. (1 v. 1883-1925; 1 v. 1883--).

Index to record of coal mine plats, showing date, name of mine, and book and page of entry. The second volume is in part a transcription of the first volume. Arr. chron. 1 v., 1883-1925, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1 v., 1883--, typed under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 14 x 2. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Fees

171. CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS (Cash Receipts), 1904--. 67 v. (CB1-CB67).

Register of fees collected, showing type and number of instrument, name of payer, amount and reason for fee, total amount of fees, and date. Arr. by instrument no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 20 x 14 x 2. V. CB1-CB49, 1904-27, common vlt., bsmt.; v. CB50-CB67, 1928--, rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

IV. COUNTY COURT

The county court serves as the judicial branch of county government. This court is administered by the county judge who is elected for a four-year term by the county electorate. Before entering upon the duties of his office, the county judge is required to take and subscribe to an oath which he files with the Secretary of State. The compensation of the St. Clair county judge was originally set at \$2.50 per diem for holding court, which was paid quarterly out of the county treasury.<sup>1</sup> Today, the judge in this county receives \$5,400 per annum.<sup>2</sup> The court hears and determines matters in which it has original or concurrent jurisdiction, including appeals from the justices of the peace and police magistrates.<sup>3</sup>

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1. L.1849, p. 62,63.

2. L.1933, p. 616.

3. R.S.1874, p. 339,340; L.1881, p. 70.

The powers of the judiciary in St. Clair County in the territorial years 1790 to 1818, were vested in various courts established, reestablished, and modified by the three territorial governments of the Northwest, Indiana and Illinois territories. These courts included: the court of general quarter sessions of the peace,<sup>1</sup> court of common pleas,<sup>2</sup> orphans' court,<sup>3</sup> justices of the peace,<sup>4</sup> magistrates,<sup>5</sup> circuit court,<sup>6</sup> county court<sup>7</sup> and the justices' court.<sup>8</sup> From 1819 to 1849 the judicial powers were administered only by the justices of the peace,<sup>9</sup> probate judge<sup>10</sup> and the circuit court.<sup>11</sup> However, in 1849 a court with civil and criminal jurisdiction coextensive with the county lines was established.<sup>12</sup> The court created was the county court. This unit of county government was established with a partial reversion to the dual function, administrative and judicial, of the local judiciary in Illinois under the territorial laws prior to 1818. The court was different from the territorial courts in that its composition varied for each of the two functions. The judicial court was administered by the county judge, who was elected by the county electorate and commissioned by the Governor. His original four-year tenure of office has remained effective to the present.<sup>13</sup> As the administrative body, the court was made up of the county judge and two justices of the peace.<sup>14</sup>

Under the second constitution complete separation of county business powers from the judicial could be had with the acceptance by the county electorate of an independent administrative body, the board of supervisors, established under township organization. This form of government was not selected immediately, St. Clair County continuing under the dual county court until 1873 when the board of county commissioners became

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1. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 4 ff.; Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 8-14.
  2. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 7 ff.; Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 115-18.
  3. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 181.
  4. Ibid., p. 297.
  5. Ordinance of 1787, Revised Code of the Illinois Territory, 1807-14, p. 357, 358, 373, 374.
  6. Ninian W. Edwards, History of Illinois 1778-1883 (Springfield, 1870), p. 157.
  7. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, II, 346.
  8. Laws of the Illinois Territory 1817-1818, p. 90, 91.
  9. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 8; L.1819, p. 192.
  10. L.1821, p. 119.
  11. L.1819, p. 380.
  12. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16; L.1849, p. 62.
  13. L.1849, p. 62; R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1933, p. 451.
  14. L.1849, p. 65.



## County Court

successor to the county court in its jurisdiction over county affairs and business.<sup>1</sup> Since that date, the county court has served only as a judicial court in St. Clair County.

The county court as established in 1849 was vested with the same civil and criminal jurisdiction as the justices of the peace. The county judge was made a conservator of the peace. He was given the same power and authority as the circuit court in preserving order in the court and punishing contempts offered the court while in session.<sup>2</sup> Suits for sale of delinquent lands for taxes of 1848, and prior years, could be brought and presented in either the circuit or county court, but for taxes of subsequent years, the county court was given exclusive original jurisdiction.<sup>3</sup> The court also exercised jurisdiction equal with that of the circuit court over naturalization.<sup>4</sup>

In addition to its civil and criminal jurisdiction, the court was vested with all the powers and jurisdiction in probate matters which were vested prior to this date in the court of the probate justice. The court was given concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court in hearing and determining applications for the sale of real estate of deceased persons and for the payment of debts for the estate.<sup>5</sup> In 1902 when St. Clair County established a separate probate court, the county court lost this jurisdiction.

The law jurisdiction of the county court in St. Clair County is concurrent with that of the circuit court in that class of cases wherein the justices of the peace have jurisdiction where the value of the amount in controversy does not exceed \$1,000,<sup>6</sup> in all cases of appeals from justices of the peace and police magistrates, and in all criminal offenses and misdemeanors where the punishment is not imprisonment in the penitentiary or death.<sup>7</sup> The county court also has original juris-

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1. Jurisdiction over county affairs and business in St. Clair County was in the board of commissioners from 1873 to 1883, when township organization was adopted.
  2. L.1849, p. 65.
  3. Ibid., p. 126.
  4. U.S.S. at Large, v. 2, p. 155.
  5. L.1849, p. 65.
  6. Under the laws of 1872 and the revised statute of 1874, the jurisdiction was in cases wherein the amount involved did not exceed \$500 (L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 340). Legislation enacted in 1933 extended the jurisdiction to \$2,000 (L.1933, p. 452), but a later amendment of the same session, passed June 21, 1933, placed the jurisdiction in cases where the amount involved is not over \$1,000 (Ibid., p. 449).
  7. R.S.1847, p. 340; L.1877, p. 77; L.1933, p. 448.

County Court

diction in matters relating to indigent mothers<sup>1</sup> and jurisdiction over insane persons not charged with crime.<sup>2</sup>

The county and circuit courts have original jurisdiction in cases of juvenile offenders. This jurisdiction is over matters dealing with dependent, neglected, and delinquent children. The authority includes provision for the treatment, control, maintenance, adoption, and guardianship of such children.<sup>3</sup>

In 1899 provision was made for the appointment by the court of a juvenile probation officer to serve without compensation from the public treasury and at the pleasure of the court.<sup>4</sup> In 1907 an amendment to this act authorized the court to allow compensation to such officers in a sum to be set by the county board, but the power of the court to appoint probation officers to serve without pay was in no way abridged by this legislation.<sup>5</sup> An amendment of 1925 provided that if more than one probation officer were appointed, one was to be designated the chief probation officer. To be eligible for the position of chief probation officer, the candidate was required to have had experience in social welfare work equivalent to one year spent in active practical welfare work. Minimum rates, based upon population, were established for the compensation of these officers, the county board to fix the amount. Where a county had only one probation officer, the salary was made to apply to that individual. For St. Clair County and others with a population of more than one hundred and fifty thousand and less than two hundred thousand,<sup>6</sup> the rate is set at a sum not less than \$200 a month. The court, however, retains the power to appoint probation officers to serve without pay.<sup>7</sup>

The officer under consideration makes investigation on order of the court and takes charge of the child before and after trial. He is required to be present at the court hearings in order that he may represent the interests of the child. This officer also furnishes information and assistance as required by the court.<sup>8</sup>

Upon petition filed with the clerk of the court for the removal of a neglected or dependent child from the custody of its parent or guardian,

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1. L.1913, p. 127; L.1915, p. 243; L.1921, p. 164; L.1935, p. 256.
  2. L.1869, p. 366; R.S.1874, p. 685.
  3. L.1899, p. 131-37; L.1901, p. 141-44; L.1905, p. 152-56; L.1907, p. 70-78.
  4. L.1899, p. 133.
  5. L.1907, p. 69,70.
  6. In 1930 the population of St. Clair County was listed as 157,775. Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S.Census 1930, p. 31.
  7. L.1925, p. 187,188.
  8. L.1899, p. 133; L.1925, p. 187,188.

County Court

process is issued for appearance. The summons may be served by the sheriff or the duly appointed probation officer.<sup>1</sup> At any time after the filing of the petition and pending final disposition, the court may allow the child to remain in the possession of its custodian, or in its home subject to the visitation of the probation officer; or the child may be ordered in custody of the probation officer.<sup>2</sup> If upon hearing the case the court finds the child to be dependent or neglected, the court may commit the child to an association or institution or allow the child to remain in his home subject to the visitation of the probation officer.<sup>3</sup> In a similar fashion the probation officer for adults, an appointee of the circuit court, assists the county court in the administration of justice among adult violators.<sup>4</sup>

In cases of delinquency, if the court finds any child to be delinquent, the court may commit the child to an institution or to the custody of the probation officer. The court may, upon its discretion, send juvenile offenders and vagrants to the state reform school rather than the county jail.<sup>5</sup>

Another probation officer, also an appointee of the county court, assists the court in mothers' pension cases. The state and county funds for indigent mothers and their children are administered by the county court, its appointed probation officers, the county board with the assistance of the county clerk, the county treasurer, and the State Department of Public Welfare. The county court, however, is given original jurisdiction in these matters.<sup>6</sup>

A mother whose husband is dead or incapacitated, or who is abandoned by her husband, is entitled to the benefits of the mothers' pension fund. Such mother in need may file an application with the county court for relief. The case of the applicant is then investigated by the probation officer under the direction of the court.

A report and recommendation of the approval or disapproval of such application is then made by this officer to the court. If the application is approved, the probation officer or other person may file with the clerk of the court a written petition verified by affidavit setting forth the facts giving the court jurisdiction and other facts upon which an order for relief is entered. Upon receipt of the petition, a summons is issued to the mother and the county board for appearance. The usual procedure is for the board to make a written appearance. Upon the hearing in court,

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1. L.1899, p. 132,133; L.1905, p. 153,154; L.1907, p. 72,73.

2. L.1907, p. 74.

3. L.1923, p. 180,181.

4. L.1911, p. 280-82.

5. L.1907, p. 75.

6. L.1913, p. 127; L.1915, p. 243; L.1921, p. 164; L.1935, p. 256.



County Court

the court may make an order upon the county board to pay monthly such money as may be necessary for the care of the mother and her child or children in accordance with the provisions of law.

To carry out this procedure, the county court appoints the probation officer who serves during the pleasure of the court and is compensated for his services by the county in such amount as determined by the county board. As noted above, this officer investigates all applications for relief and makes a written report to the court. In addition to this duty, the probation officer makes quarterly visits to and supervises, under the direction of the court, the families to which such assistance has been granted.<sup>1</sup>

The county board annually levies a tax on all taxable property to provide for the mothers' pension fund. The levy is made not in excess of two fifths of one mill on a dollar in St. Clair County.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the General Assembly, from time to time, makes appropriations to the State Department of Public Welfare, which funds, in turn, are distributed to the several counties to supplement the pension fund. To become entitled to the state appropriation, the county must meet the standards of administration set by the state agency. The county treasurer certifies to the state department an itemized statement, attested by the county clerk, of the money paid out during each quarter in accordance with the legislative provisions for this pension; and also certifies annually the total assessed valuation and amount of money raised by tax levy for the mothers' pension fund.<sup>3</sup>

Jurisdiction in the election procedure is vested variously in the county board, the county court, and the county clerk. The St. Clair county court performs an important function in this procedure. In each city, village, and incorporated town adopting the act regulating elections in such political units, there is a board of election commissioners composed of three appointees of the county court who serve alternately for three-year terms.<sup>4</sup> The election boards have authority and are charged with the organization of election districts and precincts, the appointment of judges and clerks of election, provision for election ballots, and the application of the rules and regulations for permanent registration and elections.<sup>5</sup> Otherwise, jurisdiction is vested in the county board, county court, and county clerk. The county court has original jurisdiction in election contests for certain county, district, and township offices.<sup>6</sup>

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1. L.1933, p. 194; L.1935, p. 256.

2. L.1919, p. 780,781; L.1927, p. 196,197; L.1928, First Sp. Sess., p. 3,4; L.1933, p. 194.

3. L.1935, p. 259.

4. L.1885, p. 142; L.1899, p. 157; L.1917, p. 445; L.1929, p. 399; L.1933, p. 534; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 33.

5. Ibid.

6. L.1871-72, p. 396.

## County Court

Aiding in the settlement of questions arising in the course of the election procedure is the county officers electoral board. This body consists of the county judge as chairman, the county clerk, and the state's attorney.<sup>1</sup>

The several nomination papers for county offices are filed with the county clerk and are considered valid unless objections are made within five days after the last day for filing such papers. Objections to nominations are made to the county officers electoral board for any office of the county, park district, or other division coterminous with or less than the county and other than a city, village, incorporated town, or township.<sup>2</sup> The objector's petition is filed with the county clerk who presents the same together with the nomination papers or certificate before the electoral board.<sup>3</sup> The petition contains the objector's name, residence, nature of the objection, the interest of the objector, and the relief sought of the board.<sup>4</sup> A notice of the hearing is sent to the candidate. Upon hearing of the objections, the board renders a final decision by majority vote. In the event the candidate whose nomination is protested is a member of the electoral board, the circuit judge is required to fill his place.<sup>5</sup>

Under an act of 1933, housing corporations may be organized in Illinois for the express purpose of improving housing conditions.<sup>6</sup> Such corporations are subject to the supervision and control of the State Housing Board. This state agency has authority, after investigations and public hearings, to approve the acquisition of property and construction of housing projects. If the State Housing Board approves a project over the objections of ten percent of the property owners within a mile, but not included in the project, it must then file an application with the clerk of the county court to be submitted to the county judge for the confirmation of its approval. Such application is to contain copies of the finding and order of the board, transcript of testimony, description of the project and public spaces, statement of location, and reasons for approval by the board. The objectors to the project may file objections in the county court to the confirmation of such a project. The county judge then examines the application, objections, and any additional evidence before rendering a decision of "approved" or "not approved" on the application.<sup>7</sup>

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1. L.1891, p. 110; L.1933, p. 552.

2. L.1891, p. 110,111; L.1929, p. 394.

3. L.1891, p. 111; L.1929, p. 394; L.1933, p. 552.

4. L.1929, p. 394,395.

5. L.1933, p. 552.

6. L.1933, p. 396-415; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 167-74.

7. Ibid.

## County Court

Appeals from the judgments and decisions of the county court may be taken to the circuit court.<sup>1</sup> To the appellate court or Supreme Court may be taken and prosecuted appeals and writs of error in proceedings for the sale of lands for taxes and special assessments, and in all common law and attachment cases, and cases of forcible detainer and forcible entry and detainer. Such appeals and writs of error are, when not otherwise provided, taken and prosecuted in the same manner as appeals and writs of error from the circuit court.<sup>2</sup>

The records of the county court are kept by its clerk. In St. Clair County the county clerk is ex-officio clerk of the county court. In addition to the statutory records described below the clerk necessarily maintains others in effecting the court's orders.<sup>3</sup>

For the court, the clerk keeps the following records:

1. Books of record of the proceedings and judgments of the court with alphabetical indexes by names of parties. Proceedings are recorded at length only in cases designated by law or when the court, at the motion and assumption of expenses by one of the parties, so orders. In practice, the court record has been broken down from an early date into segregated types of proceedings and judgments.
2. "Plaintiff-Defendant Index to Court Records" and "Defendant-Plaintiff Index to Court Records," intended to be separate records, but frequently combined in a single volume with the two indexes segregated in each volume.
3. A general docket in which all suits are entered in the order they are commenced.
4. A judgment and execution docket containing a column for the entry of satisfaction or other disposition. In practice, an execution docket is frequently set up independently.
5. Additional dockets, designated as the clerk's, judge's, and bar docket. In practice, the bar docket has tended to drop out of use.<sup>4</sup>

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1. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1933, p. 396.

2. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1877, p. 77; L.1881, p. 66.

3. The form which such records take is generally determined by court order (L.1849, p. 66; R.S.1874, p. 263).

4. The Civil Practice Act of 1933 grants authority to county courts, subject to rules promulgated by the Supreme Court and not inconsistent with statutory requirements, to make such rules as they may deem expedient, regulating dockets and calendars of said court (L.1933, p. 786).



6. A fee book in which costs and fees are to be entered under the proper title of the cause. In practice, separate series of volumes are maintained under these titles of causes.
7. Transcripts of proceedings in appeals from justices' courts, dockets thereof, and transcripts of judgment for liens, etc., from justices' courts.
8. Naturalization records including petitions, proceedings, final certificates, etc. The county courts in Illinois prior to 1906 met the requirement of Federal statutes to exercise naturalization jurisdiction
9. Original documents used in court hearings and determinations; of particular importance in the large number of cases where complete proceedings are not spread on court records.<sup>2</sup>
10. Monthly reports of the warden of the county jail containing a list of all prisoners in his custody and showing the cause of commitment and names of persons by whom committed.<sup>3</sup>

Proceedings of Court  
(See also Appendix M and N)

172. INDEX TO COURT RECORDS, 1872--. 8 v. (1-4 defendant, 1-4 plaintiff).

Index to common law and criminal cases, including default, probation, and confession records, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, file box number, volume number and page of entry, and dates of commencement and disposal of case. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 14 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

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1. U.S.S. at Large, v. 2, p. 153; U.S.R.S.1789-1874, p. 378.
  2. R.S.1845, p. 323,324,414,418,419; L.1865, p. 79,80; L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 262,263,339; L.1877, p. 77; L.1933, p. 448,451; U.S.S. at Large, v. 2, p. 153-55; U.S.R.S.1789-1874, p. 378-80; U.S.S. at Large, v. 34, pt. 1, p. 596-607; U.S.S. at Large, v. 44, pt. 2, p. 709,710.
  3. R.S.1874, p. 616; L.1933, p. 678.

173. LAW FILES, 1872--. 135 f.b. (211-230, 232-340, 342, 343, 972, 1043, 1063, 1093).

Files of common law and criminal cases, including summonses, subpoenas, pleas, warrants, writs, indictments, witness affidavits, depositions, commitments, stipulations, replications, appeals, appeal bonds, jury verdicts, and court decrees. Also contains Tax Objections, 1872-1933, entry 344. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 172. Hdw., hdw. on pr. fm., typed, and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

174. ORGANIZATION AND INCORPORATION OF VILLAGES, 1866-1907. 1 f.b. Petitions to organize and incorporate villages, notices of election, and poll books. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

175. BILL OF EXCEPTIONS, 1898--. 7 f.b. (347, 353, 354, 360, 361, 367, 374).

Exceptions to court's ruling by plaintiff or defendant, showing names of judge, plaintiff, and defendant, court proceedings, kind of action, court decision, dates, and signature of judge. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

176. COUNTY COURT RECORD (Common Law), 1872--. 17 v. (1-17).

Record of common law cases, including default records, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, judge, attorney, and sheriff, type and number of case, kind of action, court term, and orders of court. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 172. 1872-93, hdw.; 1894-1903, hdw. and typed; 1904--, typed. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

177. COUNTY COURT RECORD - REBATED ASSESSMENT ROLL - DUPO WATERWORKS IMPROVEMENT, 1929. 1 v.

Record of special assessment for Dupo waterworks improvement, showing date, name of property owner, legal description of property, assessed value of property, and court proceedings and orders. Arr. chron. No index. Typed; hdw. on pr. fm. 48 p. 14 x 9 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Museum vlt., bsmt.

178. CRIMINAL CASES (Files), 1872--. 83 f.b. (2-1013 not consecutive). Original documents in criminal cases, including summonses, subpoenas, pleas, warrants, writs, indictments, witness affidavits, depositions, appeals, commitments, stipulations, replications, recognizance and appeal bonds, jury venires, and court orders. Also contains Delinquency and Dependency Files, 1872-1904, entry 204. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 172. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

179. COUNTY COURT RECORD (Criminal), 1872--. 7 v. (1-7).

Record of proceedings in criminal cases, including records of probations and confessions, showing case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, and judge, court term, kind of action, and court orders. Also contains Delinquency and Dependency Record, 1872-1904, entry 205. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant; for sep. index, see entry 172. 1872-96, hdw.; 1897-1918, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1919--, typed. 600 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

180. INSANE CASES (Files), 1853---. 62 f.b. (141-1113 not consecutive). Files of original documents in insanity cases, including petitions, affidavits, complaints, investigation reports, verdicts, and court orders. Also contains Epileptic Files, 1853-1922, entry 184. Arr. by case no. 1853-75, no index; for index, 1876---, see entry 181. 1853-64, hdw.; 1865-1921, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1922---, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

181. INSANITY RECORD, 1876---. 9 v. (A-I). 1853-75 in Supervisors' Record, entry 4.

Record of proceedings in insanity cases, showing dates, names of petitioner, defendant, judge, witnesses, clerk, and members of examining commission, physician's report, file box number, and proceedings and orders of court. This record also serves as an index to Insane Cases (Files), entry 180. Also contains Epileptic Record, 1876-1922, entry 185, and Feeble-minded Record, 1876-1914, entry 186. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of alleged insane person, Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

182. ADOPTIONS (Files). 1792---. 9 f.b. (345, 348, 355, 356, 362, 363, 369, 376, 1 not numbered).

Original documents in adoptions and indentures, including petitions, consent of parents or guardians, investigation reports, verdicts, court orders, and certificates of indenture. Arr. chron. 1792-1857, no index; for index, 1858---, see entry 183. 1792-1875, hdw.; 1876-1920, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1921---, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

183. INDENTURES (and) ADOPTION RECORD, 1858---. 3 v. (A-C).

Record of adoption and indentures, showing names of minor, petitioner, and guardian or parents, personal particulars of child and petitioner, dates, court orders, and file box number. This record also serves as an index to Adoptions (Files), entry 182. Arr. chron. No index. 1858-1934, hdw. and typed; 1935---, typed. 365 p. 18 x 14 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

184. EPILEPTIC FILES (Feeble-minded), 1923---. 1 f.b. (189). 1853-1922 in Insane Cases (Files), entry 180.

Original case documents concerning epileptic and feeble-minded persons, including petitions, request for admission, reports of physicians, and consent of parents or guardians, with names of petitioner, patient, physician, and county clerk, case number, signatures of examiners, physicians, county clerk, and guardian, and dates of petition and approval. Arr. by case no. For index, see entries 185, 186. Hdw. on pr. fm. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

185. EPILEPTIC RECORD, 1923---. 1 v. 1876-1922 in Insanity Record, entry 181.

Record of proceedings in cases of epileptic persons, showing name, address, and age of patient, names of petitioner and judge, date of hearing, court order, file box number, and place of commitment. This record also serves as an index to epileptic cases in Epileptic Files (Feeble-minded), entry 184. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of patient. Hdw. on pr. fm. 480 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.



186. FEEBLE-MINDED RECORD, 1915--. 1 v. 1876-1914 in Insanity Record, entry 181.

Record of proceedings in cases of feeble-minded persons, showing names of patient, plaintiff, defendant, judge, witnesses, and members of commission, date of hearing, court orders, date and place of commitment, file box number, and remarks. This record also serves as an index to feeble-minded cases in Epileptic Files (Feeble-minded), 1923--, entry 184. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of alleged feeble-minded person. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 480 p. 11 x 15 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Dockets

Court Dockets

187. COURT DOCKET (Current and Pending Cases), 1923--. 1 v. Docket of pending common law and criminal cases, showing date of court term, case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, and abstract of proceedings. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1000 p. 16 x 12 x 6. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

188. TRANSFER DOCKET (Law), 1915--. 6 v. 1912-14 in St. Clair County Issue Docket, entry 190. Docket of closed common law cases, showing term date, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, abstract of proceedings, volume number, and page of entry of court record. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

189. TRANSFER DOCKET (Criminal), 1915--. 6 v. 1912-14 in St. Clair County Issue Docket, entry 190. Docket of closed criminal cases, showing date of court term, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, abstract of proceedings, and book and page of entry. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

190. ST. CLAIR COUNTY ISSUE DOCKET, 1912--. 17 v. (7 not numbered, 1-10). Title varies: County Court Docket. Docket of civil and criminal cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, and judge, type and number of case, and abstract of proceedings. Also contains Transfer Docket (Law), 1912-14, entry 188, and Transfer Docket (Criminal), 1912-14, entry 189. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. 1912-14, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1915--, hdw. 200 - 500 p. 14 x 10 x 2 - 16 x 12 x 3. 7 v. not numbered, 1912-14, v. 1-4, 1915-25, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 5-10, 1926--, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

191. MOTION DOCKET, 1877--. 13 v. Docket of cases granted new trial, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, reason for new hearing, and remarks. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. 1877-1907, hdw.; 1908--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 240 p. 16 x 12 x 2. 7 v., 1877-1907, common vlt., bsmt.; 6 v., 1908--, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

## 192. INSANITY DOCKET, 1893--. 6 v. (1-6).

Docket of proceedings in insanity cases, showing case number, names of petitioner, patient, attorney, and witnesses, dates of notice, service, and trial, final disposition, and volume, letter, and page of entry. Also contains Docket of Proceedings - Feeble-minded, 1893-1914, entry 193, and Epileptic Docket, 1893-1921, entry 194. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of patient. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 18 x 12 x 2. V. 1-3, 1893-1902, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 4-6, 1903--, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

## 193. DOCKET OF PROCEEDINGS - FEEBLE-MINDED, 1915--. 2 v. (1, 2).

1893-1914 in Insanity Docket, entry 192.

Docket of proceedings in feeble-minded cases, showing names of patient, petitioner, and physician, date of hearing, court orders and place of commitment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of patient. Hdw. and typed. 325 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

## 194. EPILEPTIC DOCKET, 1922--. 1 v. 1893-1921 in Insanity Docket, entry 192.

Docket of proceedings in epileptic cases, showing names of patient, petitioner, physician, and witnesses, date of hearing, court orders, and place of commitment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of patient. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

## 195. JUDGMENT DOCKET (and Execution Docket), 1872--. 2 v. (1 not lettered, A).

Docket of judgments, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, amount of claim, date and amount of judgment, and dates of execution and return. Also contains Execution Docket, 1905--, entry 196. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

## 196. EXECUTION DOCKET, 1872-1904. 1 v. 1905-- in Judgment Docket (and Execution Docket), entry 195.

Docket of execution of judgments, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, amount of judgment, dates of execution and return, sheriff's return, and remarks. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

Justices' Dockets (See  
also entry 279)

## 197. JUSTICE OF PEACE (and Chattel Mortgages) DOCKETS, 1839-1933.

129 v. (108 not numbered, 4, 20 not numbered). 1934-- in local offices of justice of the peace.

Docket of common law and criminal cases in justice courts, including chattel mortgages, 1861-1933, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and justice, type and date of case, abstract of proceedings, and court costs. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 - 400 p. 18 x 12 x 1½ - 12 x 8 x 1½. 108 v. not numbered, 1839-1912, v. 4, 1913-14, common vlt., bsmt.; 20 v. not numbered, 1915-33, museum vlt., bsmt.

County Court - Fee Books;  
Reports; Bonds; Probation

### Fee Books

198. LAW FEE BOOK (Criminal and Insanity), 1880--. 12 v. (B, 2-12). Register of criminal, common law, and insanity fees, including all fines collected by county clerk, showing date, amount, and purpose of fine or fee, name of plaintiff and defendant, type of action, and total amount of fees. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. 1880-1902, hdw.; 1903-4, typed; 1905--, hdw. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

### Reports to Court

199. REPORTS OF PATIENTS FROM INSTITUTIONS, 1907--. 1 f.b. (490). Semiannual reports of superintendent or managing officer of state institutions to county judge, showing name, physical and mental condition of patients, and dates of admission and report. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

### Bonds

(See also entry 317)

200. (BAIL BONDS), 1876--. 1876-78 in (Miscellaneous Files), entry 131C2; 1916-- in Bonds (Miscellaneous), entry 122. 1879-1915 records cannot be located.  
Bail bonds, showing names of principal and sureties, date, amount, and condition of bonds, and signature of sheriff.

### Probation

#### Adult

201. RECORD OF (Probation) CASES, 1934--. 1 f.b.  
Files of probation cases, showing name, age, and address of probationer, date, nature of crime, name of probation officer, and remarks. Arr. alph. by name of probationer. No index. Typed. 4 x 4 x 14. Probation off., 1st fl.

202. PROBATION RECORD, 1928--. 1 f.b.  
Case history of probationers, showing name and age of probationer, kind of offense, names of judge and sponsor, and financial and personal particulars. Arr. alph. by name of probationer. No index. Typed. 12 x 14 x 20. Probation off., 1st fl.

203. PAROLES (Files), 1928--. 1 f.b.  
Files of parole cases, showing names of parolee and judge, date, to whom paroled, and remarks. Arr. alph. by name of parolee. No index. Typed. 12 x 14 x 20. Probation off., 1st fl.



Juvenile

204. DELINQUENCY AND DEPENDENCY FILES, 1905--. 24 f.b. (106-110, 113-117, 120-123, 127-130, 134-137, 913, 923). 1872-1904 in Criminal Cases (Files), entry 178.

Original documents in delinquent and dependent cases, including petitions, affidavits, warrants, orders for commitment, investigators' reports, personal and educational history, and complaints. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 205. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

205. DELINQUENCY AND DEPENDENCY RECORD, 1905--. 5 v. (1-5).  
1872-1904 in County Court Record (Criminal), entry 179.

Record of proceedings in delinquent, dependent, and juvenile probation cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, ward, guardian, judge, and institution to which committed, court orders, term date, final disposition of case, and file box number. This record also serves as an index for Delinquency and Dependency Files, entry 204. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of delinquent or dependent. 1905-14, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1915--, typed on pr. fm. 400 - 600 p.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  x 9 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$  - 15 x 11 x 3. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Mothers' Pension (See also  
entries 12, 13, 395)

206. MOTHERS' PENSIONS (Files), 1914--. 18 f.b. (1-6, with repetitions).

Original documents in mothers' pension cases, showing names of mother, child or children, date of birth, court orders, amount allowed, date, and amount and number of each order. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

207. MOTHERS' PENSION, 1928--. 1 f.b.

Record of pensions granted mothers, showing name and address of pensioner, financial and personal particulars, date, and amount of pension granted. Arr. alph. by name of mother. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 12 x 14 x 20. Probation off., 1st fl.

208. MOTHERS' PENSION (Records), 1914--. 6 v. (2 not numbered, 3-6).

Record of mothers' pension cases, showing names of mother, child or children, and attorneys, kind of action, date, court term, amount of pension allowed, and court orders. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of mother. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p.  $18\frac{1}{2}$  x 12 x 2. 2 v. not numbered, v. 3-5, 1914-28, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 6, 1929--, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Inheritance Tax  
(See also entry 369)

209. INHERITANCE TAX RECORD, 1895--. 4 v.

Record of inheritance tax collected, showing name and description of estate, value of estate as returned by appraiser, cash value of annuities, rate of tax, treasurer's receipts, dates, and total tax. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1895-1907, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1908--, hdw. 101 - 401 p. 14 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  - 18 x 12 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

Naturalization  
(See also entries 304-308)

210. NATURALIZATION FILES, 1862-1906. 11 f.b. (8, 15, 22, 29, 36, 43, 50, 57, 64, 71, 78).

Declaration of intentions and petitions for final naturalization papers, showing names of petitioner, witnesses, native land, and clerk, dates of arrival in the United States, declaration of intention, oath, petition, and acknowledgment, age and marital status of petitioner, renouncement of allegiance to native land, and signatures of petitioner and county clerk. Arr. by petition no. 1862-63, no index; for index, 1864-1906, see entry 211. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

211. DECLARATION AND NATURALIZATION INDEX, 1864-1906. 1 v.

Index to naturalization files, showing file box number, name of alien, date, and court term. Arr. alph. by name of alien. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 14 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

212. NATURALIZATION RECORD (Petitions), 1876-1906. 4 v. (A, B, 1876-1906; 2 not lettered, 1903-6).

Record of petitions for final naturalization papers and of certificate of naturalization of adults, minors, and soldiers, showing date, name, age, and nativity of alien, oath of allegiance, names of witnesses, and court order granting citizenship. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. on pr. fm. 550 p. 16 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

213. NATURALIZATION RECORD - INTENTIONS, 1878-1906. 2 v. (A, B).

Record of declaration of intentions of adults, minors, and soldiers to become citizens, showing date, names of alien and county clerk, renunciation of allegiance to foreign power, date of filing, and acknowledgment of county clerk. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. on pr. fm. 315 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

214. NATURALIZATION DOCKET (Final Papers), 1876-1906. 2 v. (A, B).

Naturalization docket showing name and address of petitioner, case number, date of final certificate, court orders, and signature of county judge. Arr. by case no. Indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 240 p. 14 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

## V. PROBATE COURT

Jurisdiction in probate matters in St. Clair County after Illinois was admitted to statehood, was exercised by the county commissioners' court.<sup>1</sup> In 1821 a separate probate court was established; its incumbent, the judge of the probate court, was appointed by the General Assembly and held office during good behavior.<sup>2</sup> However, in 1837 it was provided that the probate court be held in each county by a probate justice who was elected by the county electorate for a four-year term;<sup>3</sup> the term was reduced in 1845 to two years.<sup>4</sup> The jurisdiction of the probate court was transferred to the newly created county court in 1849.<sup>5</sup> This situation remained unchanged in all counties throughout the second constitutional period. In 1870 the State of Illinois adopted a new constitution which authorized the General Assembly to provide for the establishment of a separate probate court in counties having a population of more than fifty thousand.<sup>6</sup> The enabling legislation, enacted seven years later, set the population requirement at one hundred thousand;<sup>7</sup> in 1881 the figure was reduced to seventy thousand.<sup>8</sup> Present legislation makes the establishment of a separate probate court mandatory in counties having eighty-five thousand or more inhabitants, and optional in those counties with a population of between seventy thousand and eighty-five thousand.<sup>9</sup> St. Clair County attained the population requirement in 1900, and a separate probate court was established in 1902.<sup>10</sup>

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1. L.1819, p. 223. Jurisdiction over probate matters was in the court of probate from 1790 to 1795 (Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 9). In 1795, the orphans' court exercised probate jurisdiction (*ibid.*, Law Series, I, 181). Later in 1805, the court of common pleas superseded the orphans' court (Laws of the Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 116,117); however, in 1814 the court of common pleas was abolished, and jurisdiction was then vested in the county court until 1818 (Laws of the Territory of Illinois, II, 345). From 1818 to 1819 until the organization of the state it was in the justices' court (Laws of the Illinois Territory 1817-18, p. 91,92).
  2. L.1821, p. 119; L.1823, p. 132; L.1825, p. 87.
  3. L.1836-37, p. 176.
  4. R.S.1845, p. 425.
  5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18; L.1849, p. 65.
  6. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20.
  7. L.1877, p. 79.
  8. L.1881, p. 72.
  9. L.1933, p. 458.
  10. Supervisors' Records, v. 5, p. 272,278,310. Population of St. Clair in 1900 was 86,685. Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S. Census 1930, p. 9.



## Probate Court

The court's incumbent, the probate judge, is required by constitutional provision and subsequent legislation to be elected at the same time and in the same manner as the county judge. His term of office is four years.<sup>1</sup> Originally his salary was fixed by the county board;<sup>2</sup> however, in 1925, it was provided that in counties having less than five hundred thousand inhabitants the salary of the probate judge should be \$5,000 a year, payable in monthly installments from the county treasury.<sup>3</sup> When a vacancy occurs in the office of probate judge and the unexpired term is less than one year, the Governor fills the vacancy by appointment, otherwise, a new election is held.<sup>4</sup>

As enunciated by the present constitution and subsequent legislation the jurisdiction of the court extends to all probate matters, the settlement of estates of deceased persons, the appointment of guardians and conservators and settlements of their accounts; and in all matters relating to apprentices, and in cases of sales of real estate of deceased persons for payment of debts.<sup>5</sup>

Originally, the court was required to hold monthly sessions;<sup>6</sup> however, since 1933 there have been no stated terms, the court being always open for the transaction of probate and other business, except that the court may adjourn from time to time at its discretion.<sup>7</sup> The court is given power to impanel a jury for the trial of issues or matters of fact in any matter pending before it and has power to compel the attendance of jurors and witnesses.<sup>8</sup> County and probate judges may interchange with each other, hold court for each other and perform each other's duties in their own or any other county when necessary or convenient.<sup>9</sup> The probate judge is prohibited from acting as attorney or solicitor for any administrator, executor, heirs, or other person (unless an officer of the court) interested in the estate of any deceased person, or to aid, advise, or assist in the preparation of any petition, report, or other document which is to be filed or recorded in the court in which he is judge.<sup>10</sup> When the probate judge is an interested party in any estate to be probated in his court, the county judge shall have jurisdiction in the matter unless he shall also be interested, in which case the matter is taken to the circuit court of the county for probate. If, however, the probate judge is interested only as a creditor, no change may be made except in relation to his claim.<sup>11</sup>

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20; L.1877, p. 80.
  2. L.1877, p. 83.
  3. L.1925, p. 336.
  4. L.1877, p. 84.
  5. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20; L.1877, p. 80.
  6. L.1877, p. 80.
  7. L.1933, p. 459.
  8. L.1877, p. 80; L.1933, p. 460.
  9. L.1903, p. 153.
  10. L.1917, p. 327,328
  11. L.1877, p. 81; L.1933, p. 460.

Probate Court

Appeals may be taken from the final orders, judgments, and decrees of the probate court to the circuit court of the county except in proceedings in applications of executors, administrators, guardians, and conservators for the sale of real estate. The appellant must give bond and security in such amount and upon such condition as the court shall require.<sup>1</sup>

Aiding the court in its jurisdiction over the administration of intestate estates and the guardianship of minors, are respectively, the public administrator and the public guardian. Each officer is appointed quadrennially by the Governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The public administrator and public guardian are required to enter into bonds set and approved by the probate court in sums not less than \$5,000.<sup>2</sup> Their duties are performed under the direction and orders of the court. The records that result from their prescribed duties appear among the records of the court with those of other administrators, executors, and guardians.

When there is no relative or creditor who will administer an intestate estate, the court commits the administration to the public administrator upon application of any person interested in the deceased estate.<sup>3</sup> If a widow, or next kin, or creditor of the deceased appears within six months after the administration is granted to the public administrator, the court then revokes its grant of administration to the public administrator and orders letters of administration granted to such person interested in the estate. If, after all debts and charges against the estate which have been presented within two years after the administration of the estate was committed to such public administrator are fully paid, any balance of the intestate estate remains, the administrator causes a notice to be published requiring persons still having claims against the estate to present them to the county court within six months. If no claims are presented, the balance is paid into the county treasury upon the expiration of the six-month period, the county remaining answerable to any future claims.<sup>4</sup>

As already noted, the court has authority to appoint guardians of minor heirs of deceased persons.<sup>5</sup> In cases where the minor is under fourteen years of age the court appoints his guardian. When the minor is over fourteen he may nominate his own guardian, subject to the approval of the court.<sup>6</sup> Under the direction of the court, the guardian is responsible for the custody, nurture, and tuition of his ward and the

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1. L.1877, p. 81.

2. L.1825, p. 70-72; R.L.1829, p. 208; R.L.1833, p. 627,628; R.S.1845, p. 548; L.1871-72, p. 89; L.1881, p. 3; L.1889, p. 165.

3. R.L.1833, p. 628; R.S.1845, p. 548; L.1871-72, p. 89.

4. R.S.1845, p. 549; L.1871-72, p. 89,90.

5. L.1831, p. 100; L.1835, p. 36; R.S.1845, p. 265,266; L.1873-74, p. 107; L.1919, p. 583; L.1931, p. 618; L.1937, p. 660.

6. Ibid.



Probate Court

care and management of his estate. The court may assign the guardianship of the estate to one guardian and the custody and tuition of the ward to another.<sup>1</sup> Within sixty days after his appointment, the guardian returns to the probate court a complete inventory of the real and personal estate of the ward in the form prescribed by law.<sup>2</sup> At the end of the first year of his appointment, and every three years thereafter, he makes a settlement of his accounts. When his trust is completed or upon the death of the ward, the guardian makes final settlement and delivers over to persons entitled to them, the property and papers in his hands as guardian.<sup>3</sup> Upon failure of a guardian appointed by the court to act within three months in this capacity, the court commits the guardianship of the minor to the public guardian.<sup>4</sup> The latter's records appear with those of other guardians. Jurisdiction in the matter of appointing conservators for the estates of lunatics, idiots, spendthrifts, and drunkards is vested in the probate court in all counties maintaining a separate probate court.<sup>5</sup>

In any county having a population of more than seventy thousand and less than two hundred thousand, the judge of the probate court may appoint a shorthand reporter to take full stenographic notes of the evidence in making proofs of heirships, in the probating of wills, and in all other cases coming before the court when so directed by the judge. Such reporter holds his position at the pleasure of the judge, but his term of service may not extend beyond that of the appointing judge.<sup>6</sup> Another ministerial officer of the court is the sheriff who is required to attend, in person or by deputy, all sessions of the court, to preserve order, and execute all legal commands and process.<sup>7</sup>

The county commissioners' court, 1819 to 1821, the probate judge, 1821 to 1837, and the probate justice, 1837 to 1849, each performed the ministerial function of the probate clerk.<sup>8</sup> When probate jurisdiction was transferred to the county court at its creation in 1849, the clerk of that court served as ex-officio probate clerk.<sup>9</sup> This situation obtained in St. Clair County until 1902 when a separate court was established. Since that year, by statutory provision,<sup>10</sup> the court has had its own clerk, an elected officer whose term of office, like that of the probate judge,

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1. L.1871-72, p. 469; L.1877, p. 114.
  2. L.1919, p. 582; L.1933, p. 644.
  3. L.1871-72, p. 471; L.1919, p. 583; L.1929, p. 506.
  4. L.1889, p. 165.
  5. L.1919, p. 593; R.S.1937, p. 1981.
  6. L.1919, p. 417.
  7. L.1877, p. 81.
  8. L.1819, p. 223; L.1821, p. 119,120; R.L.1829, p. 215; L.1831, p. 192; R.S.1845, p. 427,428.
  9. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18; L.1849, p. 63-65; R.S.1874, p. 339,340.
  10. L.1877, p. 82.



## Probate Court

is four years. He is required to give bond with two or more sureties, to be approved by the probate judge, in the sum of not less than \$5,000.<sup>1</sup> The clerk is required to attend all sessions of court, issue all process, preserve all the files and papers of the court, make, keep, and preserve complete records of all the proceedings and determinations of the court, and perform all other duties pertaining to his office as required by law of rules and orders of his court. He is required to enter of record all judgments, decrees, and orders of the court. In the performance of these duties he may, when necessary, appoint deputies for whose acts he is responsible.<sup>2</sup> In all matters concerning the probate of estates of deceased persons, the granting of letters testamentary or of administration, letters of guardianship, the manner of keeping court records, the form of docket entries, journals, fee books, memorandums, and process, and the recording of papers and documents, the clerk is required to be governed by and follow all laws concerning similar matters in the county court of the state.<sup>3</sup>

The major records of the probate court kept by the clerk are the following:

1. Journal of all judicial proceedings and determinations of the judge.
2. A judgment docket with a direct and indirect index: former, by name of claimant against estate; latter, by estate. In practice, the requirement of two indexes often leads to two dockets.
3. Books for recordation of bonds and letters of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators; appraisement and sale bills; widows' relinquishment and selection of property; wills and their probate; annual and final reports of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators. Generally, each category of these probate business matters is recorded separately, but the segregation is not always carefully maintained.
4. Separate dockets of unsettled estates and claims against estates, and a ledger of the accounts of executors, administrators, and guardians. Note that the dockets of probate business matters are separated from dockets of court proceedings, just as are the books of recordation of the two categories; the intention of the law to make this distinction is further shown in its granting the clerk during vacation of the court, power to receive petitions, accept bonds, grant letters testamentary, etc.

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1. L.1877, p. 82.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid., p. 83.

5. Files of original documents not subject to recordation; indexes to such; records of office transactions in pursuance of the court's orders to the clerk, necessary in the latter's settlement with that body.<sup>1</sup>

Proceedings of Court

215. ESTATE INDEX, 1821--. 2 v. (A, 1 not lettered).

Index to probate cases and administrators' bonds, showing names of estate and administrative officer, book and page of entry, file box number or letter, and date of filing. Arr. alph. by name of estate. Typed under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 16 x 4. Pro. clk.'s off., bsmt.

216. MISCELLANEOUS INDEX BOOK ST. CLAIR COUNTY PROBATE COURT, 1844--. 1 v. (1).

General index to all probate cases, showing names of estate and administrative officer, term of court, numbers or letters of file box, fee book, record book, and docket, and page of entry in each book. Arr. alph. by names of administrator, executor, conservator, and guardian. Typed under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 15 x 3. Pro. clk.'s off., bsmt.

217. INDEX TO GUARDIANSHIP AND CONSERVATORSHIP FILES, 1821--. 2 v. (A, 1 not lettered).

Index to guardianship and conservatorship files, showing names of ward or alleged incompetent, guardian or executor, and volume and page of entry in record. Arr. alph. by name of ward. Typed under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Pro. clk.'s off., bsmt.

218. PROBATE FILES, 1796--. 1033 f.b. (327-1245, A-Z with repetitions). Files of estate papers, including proofs of death, reports of administrative officer, inventories and oaths, affidavits for mailing notice to heirs, petition for letters of administration, reports of final settlement, docket sheets of probate court, bonds of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators, letters of administration, proofs of wills, accounts current, appraisement and sale bills, widows' selections, claims against estates, inventories, certificates of publication, bills against estate, and notices of final settlement. Contains Administrators' Bonds, 1796-1860, entry 227; Guardians' Bonds, 1796-1860, entry 237; Executors' Bonds, 1796-1860, entry 241; and Conservators' Bonds, 1796-1860, entry 244. Arr. by file no. 1796-1820, no index; for indexes, 1821--, see entries 215, 217; for additional index, 1844--, entry 216. 1796-1858, hdw.; 1859-1902, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1903--, typed on pr. fm. 12 x 5 x 24. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

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1. L.1821, p. 119,120; R.L.1829, p. 215,231; R.L.1837, p. 429; R.S.1845, p. 427,428; L.1851, p. 193; L.1859, p. 92-94; R.S.1874, p. 260-65; L.1877, p. 63; L.1933, p. 293.

219. PROBATE RECORD, 1830--. 65 v. (B, C, C, A-Z, 27-62). Missing: 1838-39.

Record of proceedings in probate court, showing petitions, bonds, oaths, and letters of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators, orders finding heirship and other orders, and decrees of the court. Also contains Insolvency Record, 1830-74, 1914--, entry 221; Administrators' Record, 1830-48, entry 229; Guardians' Record, 1830-60, entry 238; Executors' Record, 1830-60, entry 242; Conservators' Record, 1830-60, entry 245; Inventory Record, 1830-62, entry 246; Widows' Selection Record, 1830-1902, entry 249; and Record Sales of Real Estate, 1830-55, entry 250. Arr. chron. 1830-43, no index; 1844--, indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 215; for additional index, 1844--, see entry 216. 1830-1913, hdw.; 1914--, typed. 398 - 560 p. 12 x 8 x 2 - 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

220. ESTATE REGISTER OF CLAIMS FILED, 1869-92, 1909--. 4 v. (A, 1869-92, A-C, 1909--). Title varies: Estate Ledger. 1858-68, 1893-1908 in Estate Docket, entry 258.

Register of claims filed in settlement of estates, showing names of estate and claimant, date, amount, and purpose of claim, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entries 215, 216. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

221. INSOLVENCY RECORD, 1875-1913. 1 v. 1830-74, 1914-- in Probate Record, entry 219.

Record of insolvent estates, showing date of court term, names of judge, deceased, and administrator, value of real and personal property allowed widow, statement of facts of insolvency, discharge of administrator, and notation of oath. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 284 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

222. ORDERS FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT IN PROBATE COURT, 1898-1911. 2 v. (A, B). Title varies: Record Order for Settlement, 1848-97, 1912-- in Administrators' Account Current, entry 252.

Record of settlement of estates by probate court, showing date of term, names of deceased, beneficiaries, and administrator or executor, amount of estate, and court orders. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 518 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Common vlt., bsmt.

223. RECORD OF ORPHANS' COURT, 1796-1817. 1 v. Discontinued.

Record of orphans' court of the territory of the United States, northwest of the Ohio River then known as St. Clair County, including minutes of orphans' court, proof of wills, settlement of estates, letters of administration and guardianship, and sale of lands, establishment of township boundaries and new roads, issuance of ferry and tavern licenses, writs of ad quod damnum, and appointments of tax assessors, justices of the peace, constables, and fence viewers; also includes record of common law and criminal cases tried by court of common pleas, Illinois Territory. A transcript of this record may be found in volume 1 of Supervisors' Record, entry 4. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by type of entry. Hdw. 215 p. 12 x 6 x 1½. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.



Probate Business

Wills, Bonds, Letters

224. INDEX TO WILLS, 1797--. 1 v. (A).

Index to wills, showing name of testator, dates of proof of will and admittance to probate, book and page of entry, and filo box number or letter. Arr. alph. by name of testator. Typed under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Pro. clk.'s off., bsmt.

225. RECORD OF WILLS (Files), 1772--. 147 f.b. (A-Z with repetitions, 27-42 with repetitions).

Original wills filed for probate, showing names of testator, witnesses, attorneys, and heirs, provisions of will, and dates of execution, probate, and filing. Arr. chron. 1772-96, no index; for sep. index, 1797--, see entry 224; for additional index, 1844--, see entry 216. 1772-1862, hdw.; 1863--, hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm. 12 x 5 x 24. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

226. RECORD OF WILLS, 1794--. 45 v. (A-C, AC, D-Z, 27-44).

Record of wills, applications to probate wills, proofs of death and of wills, showing names of deceased, county clerk, sheriff, executor, county judge, witnesses, and legal heirs, and dates of death and of hearing. Original volumes A-C have been transcribed into volume AC. Arr. chron. 1794-96, no index; for sep. index, 1797--, see entry 224. 1794-1870, hdw.; 1871-1907, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1908--, typed on pr. fm. 500 p. 15 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

227. ADMINISTRATORS' BONDS, 1861--. 6 f.b. 1796-1860 in Probate Files, entry 218.

Original bonds of administrator, including bonds for sale of real estate, showing names of administrator, sureties, and estate, date, amount, kind, and obligations of bond, and date of filing. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 215. Hdw. on pr. fm. 18 x 16 x 24. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

228. BONDS OF ADMINISTRATORS, 1831-60. 8 v. (A, C, 1 not lettered, E, F, 3 not lettered). Title varies: Administrators' Bonds. 1861-- in Administrators' Record, entry 229.

Record of administrators' bonds, showing names of estate, principal, and sureties, terms, amount, and date of bond, date of expiration, certified statement, and signatures of principal and clerk. Also contains Executors' Bonds, 1831-48, entry 243. Arr. chron. 1831-37, 1840-60, indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, 1831-37, 1840-60, see entry 215; 1838-39, no index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 12 x 8 x 1. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

229. ADMINISTRATORS' RECORD, 1849--. 39 v. (1 not labeled, A-Z, 27-38). Title varies: Letters of Administration. 1830-48 in Probate Record, entry 219.

Record of estates in charge of administrators, including record of additional bonds, 1849-66, 1932--, showing petitions, bonds, oaths, and letters of administrators, names of judge, deceased, administrator, bondsmen, and clerk, description of real and personal property, amount of bond, and date of filing. Also contains Bonds of Administrators, 1861--, entry 228; Administration Record with Will Annexed, 1861-79, entry 230; Administrators' Record De Bonis Non, 1861-1902, entry 231; Bonds - Sale of Real Estate, 1861-1903, entry 232; Administrators' Record, Presumptive of Death, 1861-1918, entry 233; and Administrators' Record De Bonis Non with Will Annexed, 1861-1919, entry 234. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. indexes, see entries 215, 216. Hdw. and typed. 625 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

230. ADMINISTRATION RECORD WITH WILL ANNEXED, 1880--. 5 v. (1-5). 1861-79 in Administrators' Record, entry 229.

Copies of bonds and letters of administration with will annexed, showing names of judge, clerk, deceased, heirs, administrator, and sureties, dates of petitions, letters, oaths, and bonds, amount and obligations of bond, oath of office, order of appointment, and signature of clerk. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. indexes, see entries 215, 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

231. ADMINISTRATORS' RECORD DE BONIS NON, 1903--. 2 v. (A, B). 1861-1902 in Administrators' Record, entry 229.

Copies of bonds and letters of administration de bonis non, showing names of estate, judge, clerk, heirs, administrator, and sureties, dates of oath, petition, bond, and letters, amount and obligations of bond, and acknowledgment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 275 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s off., bsmt.

232. BONDS - SALE OF REAL ESTATE, 1904--. 1 v. (A). 1861-1903 in Administrators' Record, entry 229.

Record of bonds of administrator to sell real estate, showing names of estate, administrator, and sureties, date, amount, and obligations of bond, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 216. 1904-30, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1931--, typed on pr. fm. 340 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

233. ADMINISTRATORS' RECORD, PRESUMPTIVE OF DEATH, 1919--. 1 v. (A). 1861-1918 in Administrators' Record, entry 229.

Record of administrators' petitions, oaths, and letters in estates of persons presumed to be deceased, showing names of petitioner and alleged deceased, cause of action, dates, and orders of court. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of alleged deceased; for sep. indexes, see entries 215, 216. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 301 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

234. ADMINISTRATORS' RECORD, DE BONIS NON WITH WILL ANNEXED, 1920--.  
1 v. (A). 1861-1919 in Administrators' Record, entry 229.

Copies of bonds and letters of administrator de bonis non with will annexed, showing names of estate, heirs, administrator, sureties, judge, and clerk, dates of petition, letters, oath, bond, and will, conditions of bond and will, oath of office, and order for appointment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 301 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

235. ADMINISTRATOR AND EXECUTOR, ADDITIONAL BOND RECORD, 1867-1931.  
2 v.

Record of additional bonds of administrator and executor, showing names of estate, executor or administrator, and sureties, date, amount, and obligations of bond, and court term. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 480 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

For prior and subsequent records of administrators' additional bonds, see entry 229; for executors' additional bonds, see entry 242.

236. LETTERS TESTAMENTARY, 1819-60. 8 v. (A-D, D-F, 1 not lettered).

Record of letters testamentary of administrators and executors, showing names of estate, judge, and administrator or excutor, dates of letters and appointment of administrative officer, and signature of clerk. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, 1821-60, see entry 215. 1819-49, hdw.; 1850-60, hdw. on pr. fm. 140 p. 12 x 8½ x 1. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

For subsequent administrators' letters testamentary, see entry 229; for executors' letters testamentary, see entry 242.

237. GUARDIANS' BONDS, 1861--. 2 f.b. 1796-1860 in Probate Files, entry 218.

Original bonds of guardians, showing date, amount, and obligations of bond, names of sureties, estate, and principal, and date of filing. Also contains Conservators' Bonds, 1861-86, entry 244. Arr. alph. by name of principal. For index, see entry 217. Edw. on pr. fm. 18 x 16 x 24. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

238. GUARDIANS' RECORD, 1861--. 19 v. (A-S). 1830-60 in Probate Record, entry 219.

Record of estates in charge of guardians, showing petitions, bonds, oaths, and letters of guardianship, names of judge, deceased, guardian, bondsman, and clerk, description of real and personal property, amount of bond, and date of filing. Also contains Guardians' Additional Bonds, 1861-65, 1902--, entry 239; Conservators' Record, 1861-86, entry 245; and Wards' Final Receipts, 1861-1903, entry 254. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 900 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.



239. GUARDIANS' ADDITIONAL BONDS, 1866-1901. 1 v. 1861-65, 1902-- in Guardians' Record, entry 238.

Record of guardians' additional bonds, showing names of estate, heirs, guardian, and sureties, date, amount, and obligations of bond, and orders of court. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of heirs; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 275 p. 15 x 10 x 2. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

240. LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP, 1829-60. 3 v. (A, B, 1 not lettered).

Record of letters of guardianship, showing names of estate, heirs, guardian, and clerk, and date of order for, and terms of, letters. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. 1829-49, hdw.; 1850-60, hdw. on pr. fm. 75 p.  $11\frac{1}{2}$  x  $8\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

For subsequent letters of guardianship, see entry 238.

241. EXECUTORS' BONDS, 1861--. 1 f.b. 1796-1860 in Probate Files, entry 218.

Original bonds of executors, showing names of estate, executor, and sureties, date, amount, and obligations of bond, signatures of sureties, executor, and clerk, and date of filing. Arr. alph. by name of executor. For sep. index, see entry 215. Hdw. on pr. fm. 18 x 16 x 24. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

242. EXECUTORS' (and Conservators') RECORD, 1861--. 26 v. (A-Z). 1830-60 in Probate Record, entry 219.

Record of estates in charge of conservator, including record of additional bonds, 1861-66, 1932--, showing petitions, bonds, oaths, and letters of guardianship, names of judge, alleged incompetent, conservator, sureties, and clerk, descriptions of real and personal property, amount of bond, and date of filing. Also contains Executors' Bonds, entry 243. Arr. chron. For sep. indexes, see entries 215, 216. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

243. EXECUTORS' BONDS, 1849-60. 1 v. 1831-48 in Bonds of Administrators, entry 228; 1861-- in Executors' (and Conservators') Record, entry 242.

Record of executors' bonds, showing names of estate, sureties, and executor, date, amount, and obligations of bond, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of executor; for sep. index, see entry 215. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 200 p. 12 x 8 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

244. CONSERVATORS' BONDS, 1887--. 1 f.b. 1796-1860 in Probate Files, entry 218. 1861-86 in Guardians' Bonds, entry 237.

Original bonds of conservator, showing date, amount, and obligations of bond, names of estate and principal, signatures of conservator and sureties, and date of filing. Arr. alph. by name of principal. For index, see entry 217. Hdw. on pr. fm. 18 x 16 x 24. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

245. CONSERVATORS' RECORD, 1887--. 5 v. (A-E). 1830-60 in Probate Record, entry 219; 1861-86 in Guardians' Record, entry 238. Record of estates in charge of conservator, showing notation of bonds, petitions, oaths, and letters of conservatorship, names of judge, deceased, administrator, bondsmen, and clerk, descriptions of real and personal property, amount of bond, and date of filing. Arr. chron. For sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Inventories and Appraisements

246. INVENTORY RECORD, 1863--. 33 v. (B-L, L-Z, 27-33). 1830-62 in Probate Record, entry 219. Record of inventories of estates, showing names of estate, administrative officer, creditor, appraiser, and heirs, itemized list of personal property, real estate, notes, and accounts receivable and payable, signature of county judge, and dates of approval and filing. Also contains Guardians' (and Conservators') Inventory Record, 1863-74, entry 247. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1863-1920, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1921--, typed under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

247. GUARDIANS' (and Conservators') INVENTORY RECORD, 1875--. 6 v. (A-F). 1863-74 in Inventory Record, entry 246. Guardians' and conservators' inventory record showing legal description and value of real estate, probable rental, list and value of chattel property, list of annuities, credits and creditor's statement with affidavit by guardian or conservator, and dates of filing, recording, and approval. Arr. chron. For sep. indexes, see entries 215, 216. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

248. APPRAISEMENT BILL RECORD, 1863--. 21 v. (B, 1 not lettered, D, E, 1 not lettered, G, 1 not lettered, I-K, K, M, 1 not lettered, O-V). Record of appraisement bills and copartnership accounts, showing names of estate, heirs, appraiser, and copartner, list of chattel property, value, notes, and accounts, name of creditor, date, interest and amount due, dates of appraisal and sale, warrant to appraiser, appraiser's oath, estimate of value of property and articles sold, amount of sale, and acknowledgment. Also contains Sale Bill Record, 1911--, entry 251. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 13 x 3. V. B, 4 not lettered, D, E, G, I-K, K, M, 1863-1919, common vlt., bsmt.; v. O-V, 1920--, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt. For prior records of appraisements, see entry 251.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection

249. WIDOWS' SELECTION RECORD, 1903--. 5 v. (L-P). Title varies:  
Widows' Relinquishment and Settlement Record. 1830-1902 in  
Probate Record, entry 219.

Record of widows' relinquishments and selections from decedents' estates, showing names of estate, widow, and appraiser, list of items selected, relinquished, and allowed, appraised value, appraisement bill of personal property, statement of appraiser, and date of filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 215. 1903-15, hdw.; 1916-19, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1920--, typed on pr. fm. 250 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Common vlt., bsmt.

Petitions, Decrees, Reports of Sale

250. RECORD SALES OF REAL ESTATE, 1856--. 18 v. (A-R). 1830-55 in  
Probate Record, entry 219.

Record of sale of real estate in probate cases, showing names of deceased, petitioner, judge, clerk, and purchaser, dates of petition and sale, list and description of property sold, and amount of sale. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 215. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

251. SALE BILL RECORD, 1860-1910. 5 v. (1 not lettered B, C, E, F).  
1911-- in Appraisement Bill Record, entry 248.

Record of sale bills, showing names of estate, administrative officer, and heirs, list of chattel properties, date and amount of sale, and description of property; also contains appraisements, 1860-62. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. indexes, see entries 215, 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 13 x 3. 1 v. not lettered, v. B, C, 1860-72, common vlt., bsmt.; v. E, F, 1873-1910, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Reports, Current and Final Accounts

252. ADMINISTRATORS' ACCOUNT CURRENT, 1848--. 36 v. (2 not labeled,  
B-Z, 27-35).

Administrators' and executors' account of estates in probate, including reports, showing names of administrator or executor and deceased, date of report, list and amount of credits and debits, total amount of receipts and disbursements, balance available, distribution of balance, and dates of filing of report and discharge of administrative officer. Also contains Orders for Final Settlement in Probate Court, 1848-97, 1912--, entry 222, and Guardians' Accounts Current, 1848-55, entry 253. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. indexes, see entries 215, 216. 1848-49, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1850-51, hdw.; 1852--, typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.



253. GUARDIANS' ACCOUNTS CURRENT, 1856--. 25 v. (B-Z). 1848-55 in Administrators' Account Current, entry 252.

Guardians' and conservators' accounts of estates in probate, showing names of deceased, minor heirs or alleged incompetents, and guardian or executor, itemized list of credits and debits, total amount of receipts and disbursements, balance available, dates of filing and oath, and signature of probate clerk. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. B-O, 1856-1920, common vlt., bsmt.; v. P-Z, 1921--, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

254. WARDS' FINAL RECEIPTS, 1904--. 3 v. (A-C). Title varies: Guardians' Final Receipts. 1861-1903 in Guardians' Record, entry 238.

Record of final receipts issued to guardians for final settlement of estates, showing names of guardian, ward, and estate, date and amount of final settlement, signatures of ward and probate clerk, and acknowledgment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 216. 1904-31, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1932--, typed on pr. fm. 550 p. 15 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

## Dockets

### Court Proceedings

255. PROBATE DOCKET, 1838--. 102 v. (5 not labeled, A-Z, 27-90, 7 not labeled). Title varies: Judges' Docket.

Judges' docket of probate cases, showing names of estate, administrator, executor, guardian, conservator, claimant, attorneys, witnesses, judge, and clerk, type of action, date, and abstract of proceedings. Also contains Guardians' Docket, 1838-67, entry 256, and Estate Docket, 1838-57, entry 258. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 216. 1838-71, hdw.; 1872-1914, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1915--, typed under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 3. 5 v. not labeled, v. A-Z, 27-90, 1838-1914, common vlt., bsmt.; 7 v. not labeled, 1915--, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

256. GUARDIANS' DOCKET, 1868--. 9 v. (A-I). 1838-67 in Probate Docket, entry 255.

Docket of proceedings in guardianship cases, showing names and addresses of guardians and minor heirs, name of estate, docket number, date of letters, notation of bond, inventory of real estate notes and accounts, book and page of entry, and abstract of proceedings. Arr. by docket no. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

257. DOCKET OF OFFICIAL BONDS, 1875--. 9 v. (1-9).

Probate docket of official bonds, showing names of administrator, executor, guardian or conservator, amount of bond, date of approval, and names of sureties. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of principal; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. on pr. fm. 275 p. 16 x 12 x 3. V. 1, 2, 1875-88, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 3-8, 1889-1923, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 9, 1924--., pro. clk.'s off., bsmt.

Probate Business

258. ESTATE DOCKET, 1858--. 30 v. (A-Z, 27-30). 1838-57 in Probate Docket, entry 255.

Docket of probate cases, showing names of deceased, heirs, widow's attorney, and administrative officer, date of hearing, abstract of proceedings, and date of filing. Also contains Estate Register of Claims Filed, 1858-68, 1893-1908, entry 220, and Judgment Docket, 1858-61, 1918--., entry 259. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. indexes, see entries 215, 216. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

259. JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1862-1917. 1 v. 1858-61, 1918-- in Estate Docket, entry 258.

Docket of judgments on claims against estates, showing names of claimant and estate, amount, number, date, and nature of claim, memoranda as to summons and notice, and judgment of court. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of claimant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 12 x 18 x 2. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Fee Books

260. ESTATE FEE BOOK, 1849--. 36 v. (2 not labeled, A-C, E-Z, 27-34). Missing: 1859-60. Title varies: Administrators' Fee Book; Probate Fee Book.

Register of fees collected by probate clerk, showing itemized list of costs, date, amount, and purpose of fee, names of payer and estate, total amount of costs and fees paid, and date of court term. Also contains Guardians' Fee Book, 1849-60, entry 261, and General Fee Book, 1849-82, entry 262. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. indexes, see entries 215, 216. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. 0, 1870-79, common vlt., bsmt.; 2 v. not labeled, 1849-58, v. A-C, E-N, P-Z, 27-34, 1860-69. 1880-- pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

261. GUARDIANS' FEE BOOK, 1861--. 9 v. (A-I). 1849-60 in Estate Fee Book, entry 260.

Register of fees collected by probate clerk in guardianship cases, showing names of estate, guardian, and minor, itemized list of costs, inventory, amount of sale of real estate, amount of sheriff's and guardians' fees, total amount of fees, and dates of payment and filing. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of minor; for sep. index, see entry 216. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. A-G, 1861-1930, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. H-I, 1931--., pro. clk.'s off., bsmt.

262. GENERAL FEE BOOK, 1883--. 4 v. (1-4). 1849-82 in Estate Fee Book, entry 260.

Register of miscellaneous fees collected by probate clerk, showing names of payer and estate, date, amount, and purpose of fee, and check number. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 216. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. 1, 1883-1902, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 2-4, 1903--, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

### Receipts and Expenditures

263. PROBATE CLERK'S CASH BOOK, 1904--. 3 v. (2-4).

Journal of receipts and disbursements of probate clerk, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt or disbursement, names of payer or recipient, book and page of entry, total amount of receipts and disbursements, and balance available. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 319 p. 17 x 15 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

## VI. CIRCUIT COURT

The circuit court has original jurisdiction of all causes of law and equity and acts as a court of appeals in probate matters and causes cognizable by the county court and justices of the peace.<sup>1</sup> In addition, it is one of the courts capable of having naturalization jurisdiction according to Federal statutes.<sup>2</sup>

Originally, the circuit court was held in St. Clair County by justices of the Supreme Court.<sup>3</sup> Later, provision was made for the appointment, by both branches of the General Assembly, of separate circuit court judges to hold office during good behavior.<sup>4</sup> An act of 1827 repealed this provision and provided that circuit courts again be held by Supreme Court justices.<sup>5</sup> In 1835 the judiciary was reorganized and a circuit judge was appointed by the General Assembly for the district serving St. Clair County. All of the

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 12; L.1871-72, p. 109; R.S.1874, p. 344; L.1895, p. 189; L.1933, p. 688; L.1935, p. 1.
  2. U.S.S. at Large, v. 2, p. 155; U.S.R.S. 1789-1874, p. 378-80; U.S.S. at Large, v. 34, part 1, p. 596; Ibid., v. 37, part 1, p. 737; U.S.S. at Large, v. 44, part 2, p. 709.
  3. An Act establishing a Supreme Court for Illinois Territory, approved December 13, 1814 (Laws of the Territory of Illinois, II, 333-43). Justices to hold circuit courts by law approved March 3, 1815 (ibid., II, xvii-xxii). Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 4; L.1819, p. 378.
  4. L.1824, p. 41.
  5. R.L.1827, p. 118.



laws requiring Supreme Court justices to hold circuit courts were repealed by this legislation.<sup>1</sup> The new plan of organization was in effect for a brief period of six years, for in 1841 additional associate justices of the Supreme Court were elected by joint ballot of the General Assembly, which justices, together with the other justices of the Supreme Court, held the circuit courts.<sup>2</sup> In 1849 another change was made in accordance with the second constitution which provided for the election of circuit judges by the judicial district electorate.<sup>3</sup> The Constitution of 1870 altered the circuit districts and established population requirements for counties that may comprise a circuit.<sup>4</sup> From 1849 to the present the circuit judges have been elective officers of the judicial district electorate. The third circuit is made up of seven counties, one of which is St. Clair.<sup>5</sup>

Three circuit judges who serve for six-year terms, are elected for the district.<sup>6</sup> Before entering upon the duties of his office, each circuit judge is required to subscribe to an oath which he files with the Secretary of State. Those elected after the first Monday of June, 1933, receive a salary of \$7,200. The amount of salary to be paid to circuit court judges elected after the first Monday in June, 1939 was set at \$8,000. The salaries are paid from the state treasury.<sup>7</sup>

The hearings of several of the election contests are held before this court. Jurisdiction is granted to the court to hear and determine contests of the election of judges of the Supreme Court, judges of the circuit court, and members of the State Board of Equalization; but no judge of the circuit court is allowed to sit upon the hearing of any case in which he is a party.<sup>8</sup> The circuit court also hears and determines the election contests of some of the local and county offices. These include contests of judge of the county court, mayors of cities, president of the county board, presidents of villages, and elections in reference to removal of county seats and in reference to any other sub-

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1. L.1835, p. 150,151.

2. L.1841, p. 173; R.S.1845, p. 143.

3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 7.

4. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 13.

5. L.1933, p. 436.

6. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 12; L.1933, p. 436.

7. L.1933, p. 621; L.1937, p. 189,606. In 1835 the salary of the circuit judge was \$750 per annum (L.1835, p. 167). The Constitution of 1870 set the salary at \$3,000 until otherwise provided by law (Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 16). A few of the recent changes were: from 1919 to 1925 for judges elected during this period, \$6,500; for the period 1925 to 1933, those elected received \$8,000 per year (L.1919, p. 553,554; L.1925, p. 400; L.1931, p. 148).

8. L.1899, p. 152.

## Circuit Court

ject which may be submitted to the vote of the people of the county. The circuit court has concurrent jurisdiction with the county court in cases of contested elections under the latter's jurisdiction.<sup>1</sup>

Included under the jurisdiction of the circuit court are appeals from the Illinois Commerce Commission's rules, regulations, orders and decisions. Such appeals may be taken to the circuit court serving St. Clair County when the subject matter of the hearing is situated in this county. The appeal may be heard for the purpose of having the reasonableness or lawfulness of the rule, regulation, order, or decision inquired into and determined.<sup>2</sup>

To expedite the handling of litigation, a branch circuit court may be held at the same time that the main or regular circuit court for St. Clair County is in session. A branch court is held by any circuit judge or by any judge of any other circuit called in for the purpose of hearing and deciding motions and settling the issues in any or all causes pending in the circuit court, and for the purpose of hearing chancery causes and cases at law which are pending in such court for that term. The presiding judge of the main circuit court assigns to the branch court as many of the law and chancery cases as the presiding judge of the branch court will possibly have time to hear.<sup>3</sup>

Also to aid in the speedy administration of justice, the judges or a majority of them, may, by an order entered of record in the office of the clerk of the circuit court, dispense with either or both the grand and petit juries for any term or part of term of the circuit court, and may designate what term or portion thereof shall be devoted to criminal business, and what term or portion thereof, to civil business.<sup>4</sup>

Each of the three judges of the circuit court is authorized to appoint one official shorthand reporter. This appointee is required to be skilled in verbatim reporting and is not allowed to hold more than one such official appointment. The appointment is in writing and is required to be filed in the office of the auditor of public accounts. The reporter holds office until his appointment is revoked by the appointing judge or until the termination of the judge's term. When the official reporter is absent or disabled, the presiding judge may appoint any other competent reporter to act during such absence or disability. The substitute is paid for his services by the official reporter. The reporter causes full stenographic notes of the evidence in all trials before the court to be taken down and transcript of the same to be correctly made if desired by either party to the suit, their attorneys, or the judge of

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1. L.1871-72, p. 396; L.1895, p. 170.

2. L.1921, p. 742, 743.

3. L.1873-74, p. 82, 83; L.1905, p. 146.

4. L.1835, p. 168; L.1873-74, p. 81; L.1933, p. 441, 442.



## Circuit Court

the court. Each of the reporters receives and is paid out of the state treasury an annual salary of \$3,240. The salaries are paid out monthly on the warrant of the auditor of public accounts.<sup>1</sup>

The probation officer for adult probationers is an appointee of the circuit court.<sup>2</sup> His services extend throughout the county. Courts exercising criminal or quasi-criminal jurisdiction are given power to release on probation adult or juvenile offenders found guilty of committing certain specified offenses.<sup>3</sup> In the performance of his prescribed duties, the probation officer principally serves the county and circuit courts. He is required to give bond as determined by the circuit court in a sum not exceeding \$5,000 and is subject to the rules of, and removal by the appointing court.<sup>4</sup> St. Clair County is allowed three probation officers under the allowance of one for each fifty thousand, or fraction thereof, of population.<sup>5</sup>

The probation officer is compensated at a rate determined by the county board. In the performance of his duties, he is required to investigate the case of defendants requesting probation; notify the court of previous conviction or probation; make reports to the respective courts; keep a set of records as described below; take charge of, watch over all persons placed on probation in his county and all probationers moving from another county into his county. He is also required to notify probation officers in other counties of any probationer under supervision who may move into those counties.<sup>6</sup>

The reports made by the probation officer to the courts are kept by the clerks in the respective cases. The courts' probation records include orders granting or refusing release on probation, probationers' bonds, the reports of probation officers noted above, and discharge of probationers.

The probation officer is required to keep complete and accurate records of investigated cases, including descriptions of the investigated persons, the action of the court, and the subsequent history of probationers. These records are open to inspection by any judge or by any probation officer pursuant to a court order but are not public records.<sup>7</sup>

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1. L.1887, p. 159,160; L.1927, p. 395; L.1933, p. 463,464.

2. L.1911, p. 280,281.

3. Ibid., p. 277,278.

4. Ibid., p. 280,281; L.1915, p. 380,381.

5. L.1915, p. 380. In 1930 the population of St. Clair County was listed as 157,775. Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S.Census 1930, p. 31.

6. L.1911, p. 281,282; L.1915, p. 381,382.

7. L.1911, p. 277-84; L.1915, p. 378-84.



Circuit Court

Unlike the judges of the circuit court who are elected by the judicial district electorate, the clerk of this court is elected by the county electorate.<sup>1</sup> This official performs the ministerial duties of the circuit court of St. Clair County and files and preserves its records as well as those of the branch circuit courts.<sup>2</sup> He is commissioned by the Governor and before entering upon the duties of his office, gives bond with sureties which are approved by any two of the judges of the court. His bond is given in the sum of not less than \$5,000 as agreed upon by the judges. The oath to which he subscribed is filed with the Secretary of State.<sup>3</sup> If a vacancy occurs in this office and the unexpired term does not exceed one year, the court is required to fill such vacancy by appointment of a clerk pro tempore. The appointee is then required to qualify for office in the same manner as the clerk of the circuit court. When the appointment is made, the court notifies the Governor of the filled vacancy. The Governor in turn, as soon as practicable, issues a writ of election for the circuit court clerk.<sup>4</sup>

The clerk of the circuit court was first appointed by the circuit court in St. Clair County.<sup>5</sup> He kept a record of all the oaths that he administered and certified a copy annually to the Secretary of State.<sup>6</sup> The clerk preserved a complete record of all proceedings and determinations of the court of which he was clerk.<sup>7</sup> At each term of the circuit court, the clerk inquired into the condition of the treatment of prisoners and was required to see that all prisoners were humanely treated.<sup>8</sup> This authority was in later years, and is at present, delegated to the circuit court.<sup>9</sup> One of the early requisites of this office was for the clerk of the circuit court to reside near the county seat in order that he could attend to his duties daily. In the event that it were not possible for him to be in daily attendance, the presiding judge was to fill such vacancy.<sup>10</sup> The Constitution of 1848 made the clerk of the circuit court an elective officer of the county with a four-year term. This arrangement has continued until the present.<sup>11</sup>

The clerk is able to perform the several duties of his office with the aid of his staff which consists of assistants and deputy clerks who

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1. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 7; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
  2. L.1905, p. 147.
  3. R.S.1874, p. 260.
  4. L.1873-74, p. 95.
  5. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 6; R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 146.
  6. L.1819, p. 349.
  7. R.L.1829, p. 44; R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 147.
  8. R.L.1827, p. 248.
  9. R.S.1874, p. 616; L.1923, p. 423.
  10. R.L.1829, p. 35.
  11. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 29; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.

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are appointed by him in a number determined by rule of the circuit court.<sup>1</sup> This order is entered as of record, and the compensation of such assistants and deputies is set by the county board.<sup>2</sup>

Among the records kept by the clerk for the circuit court are the following:<sup>3</sup>

1. Books of record of the proceedings and judgments of the court with alphabetical indexes by parties. Proceedings are recorded at length only in cases designated by law, or when the court, at the motion and assumption of expense by one of the parties, so orders. In practice, from an early date the court record has been broken down into segregated types of proceedings and judgments.
2. "Plaintiff-Defendant Index to Court Records" and "Defendant-Plaintiff Index to Court Records," intended to be separate records, but frequently combined in a single volume with the two indexes segregated in each volume.
3. A general docket in which all suits are entered in the order they are commenced.
4. A judgment and execution docket containing a column for the entry of satisfaction or other disposition. In practice, an execution docket is frequently set up independently.
5. Additional dockets, designated as the clerk's, judge's, and bar docket. In practice, the bar docket has tended to drop out of use.
6. A fee book in which costs and fees are to be entered under the proper title of the case. In practice, separate series of volumes are maintained under such titles of causes.
7. Transcripts of proceedings in appeals from justices', city, and foreign courts, dockets thereof, and transcripts of judgment for liens, etc., from the former. Separate well-bound books are required to be kept for each city court. These books are to contain an alphabetical docket of all judgment decrees rendered in the city court. They also provide for entry of data relating to the filing of the transcript with the corresponding number of the transcript.<sup>4</sup>

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1. L.1831, p. 49; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
  2. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
  3. The Civil Practice Act of 1933 grants authority to the circuit courts, subject to rules promulgated by the Supreme Court and not inconsistent with statutory requirements, to make such rules as they may deem expedient, regulating dockets and calendars of said court. (L.1933, p. 785).
  4. R.S.1874, p. 347; L.1901, p. 136,137.

8. Naturalization proceedings from petitions to final certificates; Federal statutes allow the circuit court to exercise jurisdiction.
9. Reports to the court from its designated masters in chancery, the state's attorney and the coroner's inquest juries.
10. Jury venires, summonses, certificates, etc.
11. Original documents used in court hearings and determinations. These documents are of particular importance because in a large number of cases the complete proceedings are not spread on court record.
12. Monthly reports of the warden of the county jail, containing a list of all prisoners in his custody, showing causes of commitment and names of persons by whom committed.<sup>1</sup>

#### Proceedings of Court

264. INDEX TO COURT RECORDS - LAW, 1790--. 20 v.  
(10 v. plaintiff, 10 v. defendant).

Index to executions, mechanics' liens, and common law files and records, 1790--; index to chancery records and files, 1790-1814; and index to criminal records and files, 1790-1856, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, terms of commencement and disposal of case, record book and page of entry, and case, execution, or lien numbers. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

265. LAW CASES (Files), 1790--. 667 f.b.

Original documents in common law cases, including summonses, subpoenas, affidavits of witnesses, defendant's answers, instructions to jury, stipulations, pleas, replications, motions for new trial, challenges to array of jurors, depositions of evidence, recognizance bonds, verdicts, court orders and executions, and receipts for fees paid. Also contains Mechanics' Liens, 1790-1869, entry 266; Chancery (Files), 1790-1814, entry 270; and The People (Criminal Files), 1790-1892, entry 273, including Capias on Indictments, 1790-1818, 1848-92, app. D, Recognizance, 1790-1808, 1852-92, app. F, and Indictments, 1790-1818, 1862-92, app. H. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 264. 1790-1840, hdw.; 1841-94, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1895--, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

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1. R.L.1827, p. 217; R.S.1845, p. 323-26,414,418,419,518; L.1865, p. 79,80; L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 262,263,339,616; L.1877, p. 77; L.1895, p. 217; L.1933, p. 442,677; U.S.S. at Large, v. 2, p. 153-55; U.S.R.S.1729-1874, p. 378-80; U.S.S. at Large, v. 34, part 1, p. 596-607,709,710; U.S.S. at Large, v. 45, part 1, p. 1514,1515.



266. MECHANICS' LIENS, 1870---. 17 f.b. 1790-1869 in Law Cases (Files), entry 265.

Mechanics' lien documents showing names of claimant and owner, lien number, legal description of property, terms and conditions of contract, value of material furnished, cost of labor, date of completion, amount of claim, statement of claimant, and date of filing. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 264. 1870-1904, hdw.; 1905-24, typed; 1925---, typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

267. EXECUTIONS, 1899---. 17 f.b.

Praecipies for executions and original executions in common law and criminal cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorney, dates of execution and filing, fee book and record book and page numbers, amounts of judgment, fines, costs, and sheriff's fees, certification of clerk, and sheriff's return. Arr. by execution no. For indexes, see entries 264, 272. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For prior executions in common law cases, see entry 265; for prior executions in criminal cases, see entry 273.

268. CIRCUIT COURT RECORD - LAW, 1867---. 34 v. (W, A1-V1 not consecutive, 1-16). 1801-66 in Order Book (Circuit Court Record), entry 276.

Record of proceedings in common law cases including default records, 1882---, showing date, case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, judge, clerk, jurors, and witnesses, action, court proceedings, orders, and decrees. Also contains appointment of defense attorneys, 1879---. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff; for sep. index, see entry 264. 1867-1911, hdw.; 1912---, typed. 300 p. 18 x 14 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

269. INDEX TO COURT RECORDS - CHANCERY, 1815---. 20 v. (10 v. plaintiff, 10 v. defendant).

Index to records and documents in chancery cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, terms of commencement and disposal of case, case number, and record book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

270. CHANCERY (Files), 1815---. 762 f.b. 1790-1814 in Law Cases (Files), entry 265.

Original documents and recognizance bonds in chancery cases, including summonses, citations, petitions, affidavits, subpoenas, orders, defendants' answers, bills for divorce, suits, final orders of reversal, instructions to jury, stipulations, additional court declarations, praecipies for execution, depositions of evidence, and receipts for fees. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 269. 1815-40, hdw.; 1841-94, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1895---, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

271. CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS (Chancery), 1815--. 98 v. (A-Z, 1-68, A, A1-A3). 1801-14 in Order Book (Circuit Court Record), entry 276.

Record of proceedings in chancery cases, including master's-in-chancery reports and transcripts, divorce proceedings and trustees' reports, showing date, case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, judge, clerk, witnesses, and attorneys, and orders and decrees of court. Also contains appointment of defense attorneys, 1819-70, 1878--; default records, 1882--; and Assignment Record, 1815-83, entry 277. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff; for sep. index, see entry 269. 1815-1904, hdw.; 1905--, typed. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For concurrent records of appointment of defense attorneys, see entries 268, 274; for prior record of default cases, see entry 276.

272. INDEX TO COURT RECORDS - CRIMINAL, 1857--. 5 v. (1 not labeled, 2-5).

Index to criminal cases and documents, showing names of defendant and plaintiff, kind of action, terms of commencement and disposal of case, case and execution numbers, and record book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

273. THE PEOPLE (Criminal Files), 1893--. 179 f.b. 1790-1892 in Law Cases (Files), entry 265.

Files of criminal cases, including subpoenas, summonses, praccipe for execution, executions, habeas corpus writs, complaints before justices, warrants for arrest, bail bonds, indictments, depositions of evidence, instructions to jury, jury verdict, orders for fees, recognizance bonds, receipts for fees paid, and orders of court. Also contains Capias on Indictments, 1893--, app. D; Recognizance, 1893--, app. F; and Indictments, 1893--, app. H. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 272. 1893-1912, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1913--, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

274. CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS (Criminal), 1867--. 22 v. (X, E1-Z1 not consecutive, 1-11). 1801-66 in Order Book (Circuit Court Record), entry 276.

Record of proceedings and indictments in people's cases, including a record of confessions and probations, showing date, names of plaintiff, defendant, judge, clerk, sureties, jurors, witnesses, and attorneys, action, amount of bond, date of return and orders of court. Also contains appointment of defense attorney by court, 1878--; Record of Indictment, 1867-72, 1911--, entry 275; Report of State's Attorney, 1911--, entry 296; Recognizance Record, 1867-72, entry 302; and Circuit, County, City, and Justice Court Fines and Fees, 1867-1912, 1923--, entry 401. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff; for sep. index, see entry 272. 1878-1911, hdw.; 1912--, typed. 300 p. 18 x 14 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For concurrent records of appointment of defense attorney by court, see entries 268, 271.

275. RECORD OF INDICTMENT, 1873-1910. 6 v. (1-6). 1867-72, 1911--  
in Circuit Court Records (Criminal), entry 274.

Record of grand jury indictments, showing name of defendant, dates of hearing and of crime, type of crime, signatures of state's attorney and foreman of grand jury, date of filing, amount of bail, and signature of circuit clerk. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x 13 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

276. ORDER BOOK (Circuit Court Record), 1801-81. 27 v. (E, F1, G1, A-V, Y, Z). Missing: 1803-8.

Record of all circuit court cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and jurors, date, and court orders. Also contains default records, 1801-81; Report of State's Attorney, 1801-71, entry 296; and Recognizance Record, 1801-66, entry 302. Circuit Court Record-Law, entry 268, and Circuit Court Records (Criminal), entry 274, kept separately subsequent to 1866; Circuit Court Records (Chancery), entry 271, kept separately subsequent to 1814. Volumes E, F1, G1, are transcriptions of originals which were destroyed. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff; for sep. index, see entries 264, 269, 272. 1801-65, hdw.; 1866-81, hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 16 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

277. ASSIGNMENT RECORD, 1884-1906. 2 v. (1, 2). 1815-83 in  
Circuit Court Records (Chancery), entry 271; subsequent  
records kept by Federal District Court.

Copies of assignments of lands, chattels, and effects, to be sold and disposed of for the benefit and use of creditors, as a result of bankruptcy, showing date, names of debtor and assignee, assignee's bond, inventory of real and personal property, valuation, list of articles exempt by law, names and addresses of creditors, amounts of claims, and report of assets of debtor against claims of creditor. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of assignee. Hdw. and typed. 602 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. 1, 1884-96, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.; v. 2, 1897-1906, common vlt., bsmt.

278. CIRCUIT CLERK'S RECORDS, 1882-1902. 2 v. Discontinued.

Minutes of proceedings of cases in circuit court, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, dates, case number, itemized account of collections, date of term, and court orders and decrees. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 557 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

Transcripts  
(See also entry 197)

279. TRANSCRIPTS OF JUDGMENT FROM JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, 1847--.  
7 v. (A-F, H).

Transcripts of judgment from justice of peace courts, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, justice of peace, attorneys, and officers of the court, type of action, petitions, testimonies, court and constable's fees, and court orders. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. on pr. fm. 580 p. 16 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.



## Dockets

280. ISSUE DOCKET (General Docket), 1840--. 22 v. Missing: 1843, 1847-54, 1863-65, 1875-89, 1895-98.

General docket showing names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, judge, and parties summoned, action, fee book and page number, and bill and copy file numbers. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. 1840-98, hdw.; 1899--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 14 x 10 x 2. 13 v., 1840-1903, common vlt., 1st fl.; 9 v., 1904--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

281. TRANSFER DOCKET (Common Law, Criminal, and Chancery), 1825--. 208 v. Title varies: Court Docket.

Transfer docket of law, criminal, and chancery cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, judge, and attorney, dates of commencement and disposal of case, type of action, abstract of proceedings, docket and record books, and page of entry. Also contains Circuit Court and Trustee Docket, 1825-1919, entry 283, and Lien and Satisfaction Docket, 1825-86, entry 284. Arr. by entry no. 1825-1908, no index; for sop. index, 1909--, see entry 282. Hdw. and typed. 250 - 1000 p. 18 x 10 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$  - 18 x 14 x 6. 169 v., 1825-1908, common vlt., bsmt.; 39 v., 1909--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

282. TRANSFER INDEX (Plaintiff and Defendant), 1909--. 2 v. (1, 2). Index to transfer docket, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, case number, and date of entry. Arr. alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

283. CIRCUIT COURT AND TRUSTEE DOCKET, 1920--. 1 v. 1825-1919 in Transfer Docket (Common Law, Criminal, and Chancery), entry 281. Docket of receiverships and foreclosures by trustees, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, kind of action, date of entry, description of property, and record book and page of entry. Arr. chron. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 16 x 13 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

284. LIEN AND SATISFACTION DOCKET, 1887--. 4 v. (2-5). 1825-86 in Transfer Docket (Common Law, Criminal, and Chancery), entry 281. Docket of liens, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, legal description of property, filing dates of acknowledgment and of specification, case number, and amount of claim. Arr. by case no. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

285. EXECUTION DOCKET, 1825--. 15 v. (C, E-R). Docket of executions issued, showing date, case and execution numbers, names of plaintiff and defendant, amounts of costs and judgment, clerk's and sheriff's fees, to whom delivered, and date of sheriff's return. Also contains Judgment Docket, 1825-55, entry 286. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 13 x 3. V. C, E-O, 1825-95, common vlt., bsmt.; v. P-R, 1896--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

286. JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1856--. 17 v. (D-T). 1825-55 in Execution Docket, entry 285.

Docket of judgments entered, showing case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, date and amount of judgment, action, dates of court term, issue of execution, and sheriff's return. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. D-F, 1856-69, common vlt., bsmt.; v. G-T, 1870--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

287. MASTER-IN-CHANCERY DOCKET, 1910--. 9 v.

Docket of master-in-chancery cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, and master in chancery, type of case, decree, dates of approval and deed, amount of sale, and distribution of proceeds. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 16 x 13 x 2. Off. of the master in chancery, 2nd fl.

288. JUDGMENT DOCKET (East St. Louis, City Court), 1874-91. 1 v.

Judgment docket of the East St. Louis city court, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of action, date and amount of judgment, court term, costs, dates of disposal and of filing, and statement of satisfaction. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

289. DOCKET FOR THE BAR (Bar Docket), 1840-1908. 161 v. Missing: 1842-55. Discontinued.

Docket of circuit court cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, docket number, term date, and type of case. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 100 p.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Common vlt., bsmt.

#### Fee Books

290. FEE BOOKS - LAW, 1861--. 34 v. (N, S, T, W, Z, A1-C1, 31-91 not consecutive). 1811-60 in Fee Books (Law, Chancery, and Criminal), entry 293.

Register of fees received by circuit clerk, including witness', sheriff's, clerk's, and constables' fees, and fee bills, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, case number, term date, plaintiff's and defendant's costs, items of fees received, date of receipt and names of payer and payee. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. 576 p. 16 x 12 x 2. V. N, S, T, W, Z, A1-C1, 31, 34, 37, 39, 1861-78, common vlt., bsmt.; 22 v. 40-91 not consecutive, 1879--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

291. FEE BOOKS - CHANCERY, 1861--. 23 v. (O, V, X, 30-90 not consecutive). 1811-60 in Fee Books (Law, Chancery, and Criminal), entry 293.

Register of chancery fees, including witness', sheriff's, clerk's, and constables' fees, and fee bills, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, case number, term date, plaintiff's and defendant's costs, items of fees, date of receipt, and names of payer and payee. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. 576 p. 16 x 12 x 2. V. O, V, X, 30, 33, 36, 38, 41, 45, 1861-86, common vlt., bsmt.; 13 v. 47-86 not consecutive, 1887--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

292. FEE BOOKS - CRIMINAL, 1861--. 18 v. (P, Q, U, 32-88 not consecutive). 1811-60 in Fee Books (Law, Chancery, and Criminal), entry 293.

Register of criminal fees, including witness, clerk's, sheriff's, and constables' fees, and fee bills, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, case number, term date, plaintiff's and defendant's costs, items of fees received, date of receipt, and names of payer and payee. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. 576 p. 18 x 16 x 2. V. P, Q, U, 32, 35, 1862-83, common vlt., bsmt.; 13 v. 43-88, not consecutive, 1884--., cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

293. FEE BOOKS (Law, Chancery, and Criminal), 1811-60. 13 v. (A-M). Register of law, criminal, and chancery fees, including witness fees and fee bills, showing case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, plaintiff's and defendant's costs, items of fees received, date of receipt and names of payer and payee. Fee Books - Law, entry 290, Fee Books - Chancery, entry 291, and Fee Books - Criminal, entry 292, subsequently kept separately. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. 100 p. 8 x 12 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . V. A, 1811-13, museum vlt.; v. B-M, 1814-60, common vlt., bsmt.

294. RETURN FILING FEE CERTIFICATES (Stubs), 1914--. 1 v. Stubs of filing fees, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, fee book and page number, dates, amount of fees, certificate number, and names of payer and payee. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 7 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

295. FEE BILLS, 1816-57. 3v. Missing; 1825-41. Discontinued. Record of sheriff's, clerk's, and constables' fees, showing title of suit, amount of fees, names of payer and collector, date and reason for collection, and sheriff's return. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of payer. Hdw. 180 p. 12 x 8 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

For other records of clerk's, sheriff's, and constables' fees, see entries 290-292.

#### Reports to Court (See also entries 328-330, 401)

296. REPORT OF STATE'S ATTORNEY, 1872-1910. 2 v. 1801-71 in Order Book (Circuit Court Record), entry 276; 1911-- in Circuit Court Records (Criminal), entry 274.

Reports of state's attorney, showing names of state's attorney and of court, amounts of fees and fines collected and on hand, case number, dates of hearing and report, and signature of state's attorney. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 180 p. 14 x  $8\frac{1}{2}$  x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.



Jury Records

(See also entries 10, 35, 178, 265, 268, 274,  
276, 321, 328, 330, 379, 381-386)

297. JURY VENIRE, 1921--. 2 f.b.

Circuit court petit and grand jury venires showing names and addresses of jurors selected, dates of appearance, service, venire, and signatures of sheriff and circuit clerk. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

298. JURY REGISTER, 1878--. 3 v.

Register of jurors serving in circuit court, including a record of jury certificates issued, showing names and addresses of jurors, number of days of service, mileage, amount of fees earned and received, certificate number, dates, and receipt for payment. Also contains Jury Warrant Register, 1878-1917, entry 299. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2. 2 v., 1878-1917, common vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1918--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

299. JURY WARRANT REGISTER, 1918--. 1 v. 1878-1917 in Jury Register, entry 298.

Register of jury warrants, showing name and address of juror, date of issue, number of days of service, mileage, total amount of fees earned, and signatures of juror and circuit clerk. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 12 x 16 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Bonds

(See also entry 317)

300. BONDS (Files), 1898--. 14 f.b.

Miscellaneous bond file including sheriff's, appeal, bail, recognizance, and general bonds, and power of attorney, showing names of principal, plaintiff, and defendant, date, amount, and conditions of bond, date of filing, case number, and signature of sheriff. Arr. by bond no. 1898-1916, no index; for index, 1917--, see entry 301. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 8. Cir. clk.'s small vlt., 1st fl.

301. BOND INDEX, 1917--. 4 v.

Index to bond files, showing names of principal, plaintiff, and defendant, and bond number. Arr. alph. by names of principal and plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

302. RECOGNIZANCE RECORD, 1873-80. 1 v. 1801-66 in Order Book (Circuit Court Record), entry 276; 1867-72 in Circuit Court Records (Criminal), entry 274. Discontinued.

Recognizance bond record showing date and amount of bond, names of principals and sureties, reason for indictment, orders of court, and date and place of appearance. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 396 p. 18 x 13 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

## 303. SCHEDULE RECORD, 1917-19. 1 v. Discontinued.

Copies of justice bail bonds, showing names of plaintiff and justice, date, amount, and conditions of bond, signatures of sureties, and schedule of property. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

For subsequent records in unbound form see entry 300.

Naturalization  
(See also entries 210-214)

## 304. NATURALIZATION INDEX, 1836-1905. 1 v.

Index to declarations, petitions, and final certificates, showing name of alien, document number, court term, date of application, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of alien. Hdw. 250 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

## 305. DECLARATION (of Intentions), 1836--. 7 f.b., 9 v. (1-4, 5 not numbered). Title varies: Declaration for Citizenship.

Declarations of intention, showing name, address, age, and nativity of alien, oath to renounce allegiance to foreign power, date, and signature of clerk. Also contains Naturalization (Petitions and Final Certificates), 1903-5, entry 306. 1836-1905, arr. by declaration no.; 1906--, arr. chron. For index, 1836-1905, see entry 304; 1906--, indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm. F.b. 11 x 5 x 18; v. 100 p. 12 x 8 x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

## 306. NATURALIZATION (Petitions and Final Certificates), 1852-1902.

12 f.b. 1903-5 in Declaration (of Intentions), entry 305.

Original petitions for, and certificates of naturalization, showing names of petitioner, witnesses, and judge, oath to renounce allegiance to foreign power, certificate of arrival, oath of allegiance, dates of arrival and petition, and case number. Arr. by document no. For index, see entry 304. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

## 307. NATURALIZATION RECORDS, 1906--. 12 v. (1-6, 6 not labeled).

Title varies: Naturalization Service, Petition and Record.

Copies of petitions for, and final certificates of naturalization, showing names of petitioner, witnesses, and judge, address, age, marital status, occupation, and birthplace of petitioner, oath to renounce allegiance to foreign power, certificate and date of arrival, petition, and final certificate, and certificate and case numbers. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of petitioner. 1906-28, hdw. and typed on pr. fm.; 1929--, typed on pr. fm. 350 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

## 308. NATURALIZATION DOCKET, 1868-1902. 2 v. Discontinued.

Docket of naturalization cases in circuit court, showing names of alien, judge, and clerk, term date, and abstract of proceedings. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of applicant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 290 p. 18 x 13 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Office Transactions

Receipts and Expenditures

309. CASH BOOK, 1903--. 9 v. Title varies: Register of Fees

Received by Circuit Clerk.

Register of fees received and disbursed by the circuit clerk, including witness, clerk's sheriff's, and state's attorney's fees, and showing date, case, receipt, and fee book and page number, names of plaintiff and defendant, type of case, amount of fees received and disbursed, name of payee; also contains register of miscellaneous expenditures, 1928--. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 24 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

310. CRIMINAL WITNESS CERTIFICATES, 1903--. 4 v. (1 not numbered, 2-4). Title varies: Record of Witness Fees Paid.

Record of witness fees, showing name and address of witness, amount of fees earned, names of plaintiff and defendant, and signature of clerk. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 1000 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For other records of witness fees, see entries 290-293, 311.

311. EXPENDITURES OF CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE, 1895-97. 1 v.

Register of miscellaneous expenditures, including witness fees, showing name of payer, kind of case, amounts of clerk's, sheriff's, state's attorney's, witness, and publication fees, total fees, dates, book and page of entry, case number, to whom paid, and reason for payment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of account. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 395 p. 13 x 8 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

For subsequent register of expenditures, see entry 309.

Court Business

312. AFFIDAVITS OF WITNESSES (Foreign), 1887--. 3 v.

Copies of affidavits of witnesses from foreign counties and states, showing asseveration, dates of affidavit and filing, names and addresses of witnesses, case number, and notarial acknowledgment. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 16 x 14 x 3. 2 v., 1887-1925, common vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1926--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.



## VII. SHERIFF

The sheriff, by constitutional provision, has been an elected officer in St. Clair County since 1819.<sup>1</sup> The term of his office, originally set at two years,<sup>2</sup> is now four years.<sup>3</sup> In 1880, it was provided, by constitutional amendment, that no person elected to the office of sheriff should be eligible for reelection to that office until four years after the expiration of his term of office.<sup>4</sup> His bond in this county is required in the sum of \$10,000 and must be approved by the county judge.<sup>5</sup> Memoranda of this bond are entered at large upon the records of the county court, and the bond is filed in the office of the county clerk.<sup>6</sup> One or more deputies are appointed by the sheriff in accordance with the number allowed by rule of the circuit court. Compensation of the deputies is determined by the county board.<sup>7</sup> The sheriff is warden of the county jail and has custody and regulation of the same and of all prisoners.<sup>8</sup> To assist him in this administration, he appoints a superintendent of

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1. The sheriff was an appointed officer prior to the admission of Illinois into the Union; in 1788 he was appointed by the Governor of the Northwest Territory. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 8. In 1807 when St. Clair County was a part of the Indiana Territory, the sheriff was appointed by the Territorial Governor. Laws of the Indiana Territory, 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 233. Later, in 1809 upon the organization of the Illinois Territory, he was appointed by the Governor of the territory. John Reynolds, Pioneer History of Illinois, p. 365. However, subsequent to 1819, he was an elected officer. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 7; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; second amendment, November 22, 1880, to the Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; also L.1819, p. 110; R.S.1874, p. 989.
  2. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 7.
  3. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
  4. Ibid., Art. X, sec. 8, as amended November, 1880.
  5. R.S.1874, p. 990; cf. R.L.1827, p. 371. Prior to the organization of the county court, the sheriff's bond and securities were approved by the circuit court.
  6. R.S.1845, p. 514; R.S.1874, p. 989.
  7. R.L.1827, p. 373; R.S.1845, p. 515; L.1869, p. 399; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
  8. L.1819, p. 111, 112, 160-62, 314-17, 332, 333; L.1821, p. 37, 63, 64; R.L.1827, p. 247-50; L.1831, p. 103, 104, 106; R.L.1833, p. 574, 575; L.1845, p. 10, 19; R.S.1845, p. 133, 134, 515-17; R.S.1874, p. 616, 989-91; L.1901, p. 137, 138; L.1923, p. 423. The citations also include references to duties not included in the general outline noted above.

Sheriff

the county jail for whose conduct he is responsible, and whom he may remove at pleasure.<sup>1</sup>

Essentially without change for over one hundred years, the principal duties of the sheriff are the following:

1. To act as conservator of the peace, with power to arrest offenders on view.
2. To attend, in person or by deputy, all courts of record (city, county, probate, circuit, and appellate courts) in his county, and to obey the orders and directions of the courts.
3. To serve, execute, and return all writs, warrants, process, orders, and decrees legally directed to him.
4. To sell real or personal property by virtue of execution or other process.
5. To send fingerprints of criminals to the State Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation.<sup>2</sup>

In the course of the sheriff's many detailed duties included in these broad provisions, the following records may be kept but do not appear in St. Clair County:

1. Receipts of deliveries of prisoners in changes of venue.
2. Copies of reports to the county court and circuit court.<sup>3</sup>
3. Reports of pawnbrokers on loans and articles pawned.<sup>4</sup>

The following records may be kept and do appear:

1. Register of prisoners.
2. Docket of executions.
3. "Books of Accounts," including records of fees and disbursements.
4. Data of identification of criminals and stolen property.

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1. L.1923, p. 423.
  2. R.L.1827, p. 311,312,372,373; R.L.1829, p. 121; L.1839, p. 14-18,20; L.1877, p. 72; L.1905, p. 147; L.1921, p. 500; L.1931, p. 465.
  3. L.1819, p. 200-202,317; R.L.1827, p. 249,273; L.1845, p. 11; R.S.1845, p. 305; R.S.1874, p. 568,991,992,1096; L.1907, p. 316-19; L.1909, p. 301; L.1921, p. 500; L.1923, p. 424, L.1929, p. 549; L.1931, p. 465; L.1933, p. 187-90.
  4. L.1909, p. 301.

Process

313. EXECUTION DOCKET, 1825--. 13 v. (1 not lettered, D-F, 2 not lettered, O, 5 not lettered, C). Missing: 1850-71.

Docket of executions issued, showing case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, type of action, amount of judgment, dates of execution, judgment, and return, amount of fees, and court of issue. Also contains Sheriff's Process Docket, 1825-60, 1891--, entry 314; and Sale Record, 1825-1916, entry 315. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 240 p. 18 x 12 x 3. 6 v. not lettered, D-F, O, 1825-1909, common vlt., bsmt.; 2 v. not lettered, C, 1910--, sh.'s off., 1st fl.

314. SHERIFF'S PROCESS DOCKET, 1861-90. 8 v. (2 not numbered, 1, 2, 2 not numbered, 3, 4). 1825-60, 1891-- in Execution Docket, entry 313.

Docket of processes served by sheriff, showing names of plaintiff, defendant and attorney, type of action, name of court issuing process, dates of receipt, service, and return, by whom served, and amount of sheriff's fees. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 16 x 12 x 3. Common vlt., bsmt.

315. SALE RECORD, 1917--. 1 v. (2). 1825-1916 in Execution Docket, entry 313.

Record of property sold by sheriff to satisfy judgments, showing date, place, and amount of sale, description of property, names of owner and purchaser, and date and number of execution. Also includes a copy of court orders, certificate of publication, and newspaper advertisement of sale for each case. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of property owner. Hdw. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 4. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

316. CONVEYANCE RECORD TO STATE INSTITUTIONS, 1930--. 2 v.

Lists of persons committed to state institutions, showing names of party committed, institution, deputy making delivery, and date of commitment. Arr. alph. by name of institution. Indexed alph. by name of institution. Hdw. 300 p. 15 x 8 x 1. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

Bonds

(See also entries 200, 300-303)

317. RECEIPTS FOR BAIL BONDS ISSUED BY SHERIFF (Bail Bond Record), 1921--. 64 v.

Record of bail bonds issued for release of prisoners, showing name of prisoner, date, amount, and number of bond, case number, and nature of crime. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 8 x 3 x 1. 40 v., 1921-29, common vlt., 1st fl.; 24 v., 1930--, sh.'s off., 1st fl.



### Jail Records

318. PRISONERS' RECORD, 1915--. 1 f.b.

Lists of prisoners held by sheriff, showing name of prisoner, personal and statistical particulars, length of residence in the United States, and nature of charge. Arr. alph. by name of prisoner. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 6 x 6 x 12. Off. co. jail, 1st fl.

319. JAIL REGISTER, 1884--. 8 v.

Register of prisoners held in county jail, showing name and personal and statistical particulars of prisoner, name of magistrate, nature of offense, court orders, sentence, and dates of commitment and discharge. Arr. chron. 1884-1925, indexed alph. by name of prisoner; for index, 1926--, see entry 320. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 21 x 14 x 2. 1 v., 1884-91, common vlt., bsmt.; 7 v., 1892--, off. co. jail, 1st fl.

320. INDEX JAIL REGISTER, 1926--. 2 v.

Index to jail register, showing name of prisoner, and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of prisoner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 20 x 14 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Off. co. jail, 1st fl.

### Jury Records

(See also entries 10, 35, 178, 265, 268, 274, 276, 328,  
330, 379, 381-386)

321. JURORS' RECORD, 1902--. 5 v. (2 not numbered, 3-5).

Register of jurors, showing names of jurors and township, place of residence, mileage, days of service, amount of fees, name of court, and list of cases tried. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 13 x 2. 2 v. not labeled, 1902-11, v. 3,4, 1912-29, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 5, 1930--, sh.'s off., 1st fl.

### Fees, Receipts and Expenditures

322. SHERIFF'S REGISTER OF FEES, 1858--. 31 v. (G, 1-30).

Register of sheriff's fees earned and received, showing date, names of payer and officer, type of service, mileage, type of fee, total fees earned, and date and total amount of fees received. Also contains Sheriff General Fee Book, 1858-93, 1908--, entry 326. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 13 x 1. V. G, 1-19, 1858-1926, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 20-30, 1927--, sh.'s off., 1st fl.

323. SUBPOENA (Witness Fee) RECORD, 1899--. 10 v. (1-10).

Register of witness fees, showing name and address of witness, mileage, date of service, nature of case, dates of issue, service, and return of subpoena, name of attorney, and total amount of fees. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. 1-8, 1899-1929, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 9,10, 1930--, sh.'s off., 1st fl.

## 324. EXPENSE BOOK, 1902--. 2 v.

Daily record of office expenses of the sheriff, including amount of salary of sheriff and deputies, amount expended for transportation and office supplies, showing date, purpose, and amount of each expenditure, name of recipient, and total amount of expenditures. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 420 p. 17 x 14 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

## 325. BAILIFFS' ATTENDANCE (Journal), 1926--. 2 v.

Bailiffs' record of expense for jurors, showing amount spent for lodging, food, and other necessities for jurors. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 200 p. 13 x 8 x 3. 1 v., 1926-34, common vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1935--, sh.'s off., 1st fl.

## 326. SHERIFF GENERAL FEE BOOK, 1894-1907. 1 v. 1858-93, 1908-- in Sheriff's Register of Fees, entry 322.

Register of fees collected by sheriff, showing date, purpose, and amount of fee, type of case, amount of judgment, clerk's fees and interest, total amount of fees received, book and page of entry in docket, name of payor, and date of report. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 210 p. 15 x 11 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

## Correspondence

## 327. SHERIFF'S CORRESPONDENCE, 1921--. 11 f.b.

Correspondence of sheriff, including descriptive circulars of escaped criminals with photos and Bertillon measurements, reports of stolen property, and waivers and letters requesting sheriff to locate missing persons. Arr. alph. by name of correspondent. No index. Hdw. 10 x 3 x 10. 6 f.b., 1921-35, common vlt., bsmt.; 5 f.b., 1936--, sh.'s off., 1st fl.

### VIII. CORONER

The coroner's office in St. Clair County has continued in existence from the organization of the county in 1790 to the present.<sup>1</sup> The coroner is elected by the county electorate for a four-year term. After certification of his election by the county clerk, filing of his bond, and taking oath of office,<sup>2</sup> he receives his commission from the Governor. The inquest duties of this official have changed little over a period of more than a century. The coroner acts as a conservator of the peace with powers equal to the sheriff's in this respect and serves as a ministerial officer of the courts in the absence or disqualification of the sheriff; he also performs all the other duties of the latter when the office is vacant.<sup>3</sup>

The most important function of the coroner is to hold inquest over the bodies of persons supposed to have come to their death by violence, casualty, or other undue means. When notification of such death is received, the coroner proceeds to the body, takes charge of it, and summons a jury of six men of the vicinity in which the body was found. The jury is instructed to assemble at a stated time and place to view the body and to inquire into the cause and manner of the death. If the inquest is continued and a vacancy should occur on the jury, the coroner is allowed to fill such vacancy.<sup>4</sup>

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1. In 1788 the Governor of the Northwest Territory appointed a coroner for each county; St. Clair County was organized in 1790 and was a part of the Northwest Territory. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 24,25. From 1800 to 1809, the county was a part of the Indiana Territory, and during those years, the coroner was appointed by the territorial Governor. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 252. When the Illinois Territory was organized in 1809, the coroner was appointed by the Governor. John Reynolds, Pioneer History of Illinois, p. 365. However, subsequent to 1818, he was an elected officer. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; L.1849, Second Sess., p. 7; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
  2. The office is constitutional and elective (Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8). The term, formerly two years, is now four years (second amendment, November 22, 1880, to Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8).
  3. L.1819, p. 111,160; L.1821, p. 20-23; L.1825, p. 63,64; R.L.1827, p. 246-50,372,373,375; R.S.1845, p. 515,517; R.S.1874, p. 281,282.
  4. L.1821, p. 22-24; R.S.1845, p. 517,518; R.S.1874, p. 282-84; L.1879, p. 82; L.1907, p. 213; L.1919, p. 403; L.1931, p. 388.



To the custody of the clerk of the circuit court are returned the verdict of the jury, and such recognizances as may be given the coroner by witnesses whose testimony implicates any person as the unlawful slayer of the deceased.<sup>1</sup> In his own office, the coroner files and preserves the record of such testimony.<sup>2</sup> The coroner also keeps one record which he originates, the "inquest record." This record recapitulates all the data involved in the entire inquest procedure and includes an inventory and accounting of the personal property and money of the deceased.<sup>3</sup>

Deputy coroners appointed by this official assist him to perform the duties of his office. The number of deputies is set by rule of the circuit court, and their compensation is determined by the county board of supervisors. The bond or securities of these assistants are taken by the coroner, and the oath to which each subscribes is filed in the county clerk's office.<sup>4</sup>

328. CORONER'S INQUEST (Files), 1865--. 12 cartons, 78 f.b. Coroner's inquest papers including transcript of testimony and verdicts of jury, showing names of deceased, jurors, and witnesses, personal and statistical particulars, inventory of personal effects, personal description of deceased, date of filing, case number, and remarks. Arr. by case no. For index, 1865-1935, see entry 329; 1936--., no index. 1865-73, hdw.; 1874--., hdw. and typed on pr. fm. Cartons 4 x 8 x 24; f.b. 11 x 5 x 18. 12 cartons, 1865-1905, museum vlt., 1st fl.; 72 f.b., 1906-35, cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.; 4 f.b., 1936--., cor.'s off., 2nd fl.

329. INDEX TO CORONER'S INQUESTS, 1865--. 2 v. (1, 2). Last index entry 1935.

Index to coroner's inquest files, showing case number, name of deceased, and date of inquest. Arr. alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 12 x 6 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Cir. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

330. CORONER'S RECORD, 1884--. 15 v. (A, 14 not lettered).

Record of coroner's inquests, showing names of deceased, jurors, and witnesses, verdicts of jury, dates of inquests, amount of fees paid, and case number. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 305 p. 18 x 14 x 3. V. A, 9 not lettered, 1884-1927, common vlt., bsmt.; 4 v. not lettered, 1928-35, museum vlt., bsmt.; 1 v. not lettered, 1936--., cor.'s off., 2nd fl.

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1. L.1821, p. 24,25; R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 284.
  2. L.1869, p. 104; R.S.1874, p. 283; L.1907, p. 213; L.1919, p. 293.
  3. L.1821, p. 25,26; R.S.1874, p. 283.
  4. L.1881, p. 63.

## IX. STATE'S ATTORNEY

The functions of the office of state's attorney in St. Clair County were performed by a prosecuting attorney from 1814 to 1817<sup>1</sup> when he was replaced by a circuit attorney.<sup>2</sup> In 1827 an officer "styled and called state's attorney" assumed the duties of circuit attorney.<sup>3</sup> In St. Clair County, as in each of the counties of the judicial district, this officer commenced and prosecuted in courts of record all actions in which the people of the state or county were concerned.<sup>4</sup> The state's attorney was appointed by the Governor until 1835, when he became an appointee of the General Assembly. This latter provision remained effective until 1848, when the state's attorney became an elective officer of the circuit district electorate. At this time his services also were expanded to include the newly created county court. Finally, the present constitution made the office elective in and for each county.<sup>5</sup> Bond in the sum of \$5,000 has been required since 1872.<sup>6</sup> From the creation of this office in the state until the present, the state's attorney has continued to receive his commission from the Governor for the tenure of his office.<sup>7</sup> In 1827 his appointment was set at a four-year term;<sup>8</sup> in 1835 his term was set at two years.<sup>9</sup> Then in 1849, the state's attorney's office became elective by the district electorate for a four-year term, the first term, however, being only for three years and ending in 1852.<sup>10</sup> In St. Clair County the state's attorney receives an annual salary of \$7,200, with an additional \$400 paid by the state. Statutory fee rates are allowed him for convictions on specified offenses and crimes before justices of the peace, police magistrates, and county and circuit courts. Also, rates are established for preliminary examination of defendant, for attendance at trials, and for appeals. These several fees and rates make up a county fund from which is paid his salary.<sup>11</sup>

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1. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, I, 96.
  2. Laws of Illinois Territory 1817-1818, p. 54.
  3. L.1819, p. 204; L.1825, p. 178,179; R.L.1827, p. 79,80.
  4. R.L.1827, p. 79,80; L.1835, p. 44; R.S.1845, p. 76.
  5. R.L.1833, p. 98; L.1835, p. 44; Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21, 28; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22; R.S.1874, p. 172.
  6. L.1871-72, p. 189.
  7. R.L.1833, p. 98; L.1835, p. 44; Constitution of 1848, Art. V, soc. 28; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22; R.S.1874, p. 172.
  8. R.L.1827, p. 79,80.
  9. L.1835, p. 44.
  10. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22.
  11. L.1871-72, p. 422; L.1873-74, p. 104,105; L.1909, p. 231-33; L.1929, p. 474-76; L.1937, p. 607.

The duties of the state's attorney are:

1. To commence and prosecute all actions, suits, indictments, and prosecutions, civil or criminal, in any court of record in his county in which the people of the state or county may be concerned.
2. To prosecute all forfeited bonds and recognizances and all actions and proceedings for the recovery of debts, revenues, moneys, fines, penalties, and forfeitures accruing to the state or his county, or to any school district in his county; also to prosecute all suits in his county against railroads or transportation companies, which may be prosecuted in the name of the people of the State of Illinois.
3. To commence and prosecute all actions and proceedings brought up by any county officer in his official capacity.
4. To defend all actions and proceedings brought against his county or against any county or state officer in his official capacity, in his county.
5. To attend the examination of all persons brought before any judge on habeas corpus when the prosecution is in his county.
6. To attend before justices of the peace and prosecute charges of felony or misdemeanor for which the offender is required to be recognized and to appear before a court of record when it is within his power to do so.
7. To give his opinion without fee or reward, to any county officer or justice of the peace in his county upon any question of law relating to any criminal or other matter in which the people of the state or county may be concerned.
8. To assist the Attorney General whenever it may be necessary, and in cases of appeal or writ of error, from his county to the Supreme Court, to which it is the duty of the Attorney General to attend, he shall, a reasonable time before the trial of such appeal or writ of error, furnish the Attorney General with a brief, showing the nature of the case and the questions involved.
9. To pay all moneys received by him in trust, without delay, to the officer who by law is entitled to their custody.
10. To perform such other and further duties as may from time to time be enjoined upon him by law.
11. To appear in all proceedings by collectors of taxes against delinquent tax payers for judgment to sell real estate, and to see that all the necessary preliminary steps have been legally taken to make the judgment legal and binding.<sup>1</sup>

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1. R.S.1845, p. 76; R.S.1874, p. 172.



12. To enforce the collection of all fines, forfeitures, and penalties imposed or incurred in the courts of record in his county; and report on the collection of these moneys to the circuit court.<sup>1</sup>

For state's attorney's reports to circuit court, see entry 296; for reports to auditor, see entry 401; for reports to superintendent of schools, see entry 415.

331. CURRENT FILES, 1926--. 72 f.b.

Original documents of pending common law, criminal, and chancery cases, including petitions, indictments, bills of complaint, and certificates of evidence. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 7 x 4 x 12. Off. of state's atty., 1st fl.

332. COUNTY COURT CASES (Closed), 1923--. 4 f.b.

Original documents filed in county court cases, including warrants, subpoenas, affidavits, writs, indictments, testimony, and jury verdicts, showing case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, and witnesses, nature of crime, court orders, and date of court term. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. No index. Hdw. and typed, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 6 x 15. Off. of state's atty., 1st fl.

333. CIRCUIT COURT CASES (Closed), 1923--. 25 f.b.

Original documents filed in circuit court cases, including warrants, subpoenas, affidavits, writs, indictments, testimony, and jury verdicts, showing case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, and witnesses, nature of crime, court orders, and date of court term. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. No index. Hdw. and typed, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 6 x 13. Off. of state's atty., 1st fl.

334. CITY COURT CASES (Closed), 1928--. 22 f.b.

Original documents filed in city court cases, including warrants, subpoenas, affidavits, writs, indictments, testimony, and jury verdicts, showing case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, and witnesses, nature of crime, court orders, and date of court term. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. No index. Hdw. and typed, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 6 x 15. Off. of state's atty., 1st fl.

335. GRAND JURY FILES, 1925--. 98 f.b.

Original documents of cases heard by grand jury, including warrants, subpoenas, testimony, verdicts, writs, and indictments, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and witnesses, nature of crime, and date of hearing. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. No index. Hdw. and typed, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 6 x 15. Off. of state's atty., 1st fl.

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1. L.1909, p. 342; L.1911-12, p. 88; L.1929, p. 475.

336. STATE'S ATTORNEY'S FILES (Correspondence), 1913--. 1 bdl. Files of general correspondence relative to court cases, reports on investigations, and complaints settled out of court. Arr. alph. by name of correspondent. No index. Hdw. and typed. 16 x 10 x 8. Common vlt., bsmt.

337. DEPUTY STATE'S ATTORNEY DELINQUENT TAX, 1921-23. 1 v. Discontinued. Register of delinquent taxes collected by state's attorney, including the tax collector's report for years 1921, 1922, and 1923, showing name of owner, legal description of property, amount of state's attorney's fees, and amount of taxes due, collected, and deposited with collector. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 700 p. 12 x 15 x 4. Common vlt., bsmt.

#### X. BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The board of assessors, with the aid of the township assessors in St. Clair County, is responsible for the assessment of property upon which the township, district, county, state, and other taxes are levied. Principally, these officers annually revise the assessment of property, correct the same upon complaint, and quadrennially assess real and personal property.<sup>1</sup> Many statutory provisions have regulated this function in St. Clair County. Early laws fixed the value of the several categories of real and personal property, leaving to the assessing officer only limited discretion.<sup>2</sup>

Property assessments in St. Clair County were first made by the county assessor, an appointee of the court of common pleas.<sup>3</sup> In 1819

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1. L.1871-72, p. 20-22; L.1879, p. 243; L.1881, p. 134; L.1891, p. 37; L.1898, p. 37,40,44; L.1903, p. 295,296; L.1923, p. 491,492,504,505; L.1927, p. 713,714; L.1928, Sp. Sess., p. 106; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 66.
  2. L.1819, p. 313-19; L.1825, p. 173; L.1839, p. 4-6; L.1840, p. 4; L.1845, p. 6.
  3. The first county assessor in St. Clair County was an appointee of the court of common pleas. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 71; Laws of the Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 147. In 1814, the Governor of the Illinois Territory appointed a county treasurer for each county. This officer performed the duties of the former county assessor. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, II, 600-604.

the county treasurer performed the assessment functions.<sup>1</sup> From 1825 to 1827, when the sheriff acted as treasurer,<sup>2</sup> a county assessor was appointed by the county commissioners' court.<sup>3</sup> In 1827 the General Assembly reestablished the office of county treasurer, and the assessment function was resumed by that officer.<sup>4</sup> The treasurer continued to act in this capacity until 1839 when the legislature provided for the appointment by the county commissioners' court of a county assessor.<sup>5</sup> The duty of property assessment reverted to the county treasurer again in 1844<sup>6</sup> and continued to be vested in that office until 1883 when St. Clair County adopted township organization and assessments were made by township assessors, elected one in each township. These officers have continued to perform this function ever since.<sup>7</sup>

Between 1849 and 1898, the assessing officers in St. Clair County received their assessment lists from, and reported assessments to, the county clerk.<sup>8</sup> In the latter year, the legislature provided that the county treasurer should be ex-officio supervisor of assessments.<sup>9</sup> From that date until 1920 the township assessors worked under the direction of, and reported the assessment of property to, the county treasurer, acting in this ex-officio capacity. In 1920 a board of assessors of five members was elected; two were to hold office for six years, two for four years, and one for two years, and every two years thereafter at the regular county election an assessor or assessors were to be elected for a six-year term.<sup>10</sup> From 1920 to the present this board has

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1. L.1819, p. 315.
  2. L.1825, p. 178.
  3. Ibid., p. 173.
  4. R.L.1827, p. 330.
  5. L.1839, p. 4.
  6. L.1843, p. 231,237.
  7. L.1851, p. 38,54-57; L.1853, p. 14,15; L.1855, p. 351; L.1871-72, p. 20-24. From 1873 to 1883, St. Clair County was under the commission form of government. During those years, the county treasurer acted as ex-officio assessor. L.1873, p. 74.
  8. L.1849, p. 121,128; L.1849, Second Sess., p. 38; L.1853, p. 14,17, 49,50; L.1871-72, p. 19,20,22,23.
  9. L.1898, p. 36,37.
  10. The act of 1898 provided for the election of a board of assessors in all counties containing one hundred and twenty-five thousand or more inhabitants (L.1898, p. 37). In 1920 the population of St. Clair County was 136,520. However, in 1932 the population requirement was increased to one hundred fifty thousand or more and less than two hundred and fifty thousand (L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 68). In 1930, the population of St. Clair County was 157,775 (Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S. Census 1930, p. 31).



continued to carry on the same duties previously performed by the supervisor of assessments. Every township assessor is bonded in the sum of \$500. Bond for the members of the board of assessors is \$2,000 or such larger sum as the county board may determine.<sup>1</sup>

For other taxation records, see entries 1, 36-87, 343-362, 442, 445, 446.

338. RAILROAD SCHEDULES, 1880--. 35 f.b.

Tax schedules of railroad property, showing name of railroad, school district number, itemized list and value of property, date of filing, and signature of assessor. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

339. TAX RATES (Files), 1896--. 1 f.b. (520).

Schedules of state tax rates, showing date, amount, and purpose of tax rate, and signature of auditor of public accounts. Arr. chron. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

340. RAILROAD ASSESSMENTS, 1924--. 1 f.b.

Assessment schedule of railroad property, showing name of railroad, date, acreage, listed value, value of improvements, and total listed and assessed values. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

341. SCHEDULE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, 1927--. 87 bdl.

Personal property tax schedules showing name of property owner, school district number, itemized list and value of personal property, date of filing schedules, and signature of assessor. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 15 x 8 - 10 x 5 x 4. 84 bdl., 1927-35, common vlt., bsmt.; 3 bdl., 1936--, bd. of assrs. - bd. of review rm., bsmt.

342. ASSESSOR'S ABSTRACT OF CONVEYANCES, 1869. 1 v. Discontinued.

Abstract of transfer of title of ownership of real estate beginning with the original owner to the present one, showing changes of title, dates, periods of ownership, and legal description of land. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. 500 p. 17 x 12 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

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1. L.1898, p. 37; L.1923, p. 493,494; L.1927, p. 743,744; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 66.

## XI. BOARD OF REVIEW

An important aspect of the revenue procedure is the authority, exercised by the board of review, to assess, equalize, and review or revise the assessment of property.<sup>1</sup> Early legislation provided for appeals from assessments to the county commissioners' court. The court was empowered to review and revise assessments on real and personal property.<sup>2</sup>

In 1849, when the county court succeeded the county commissioners' court in St. Clair County, appeals were made to that body.<sup>3</sup> This provision remained effective until 1873 when the board of county commissioners became the administrative body and heard all appeals.<sup>4</sup> When township organization was instituted in 1883<sup>5</sup> this jurisdiction was given to the town board composed of the township supervisor, clerk, and assessor.<sup>6</sup> The board of supervisors in their annual meetings examined the assessment rolls in the several towns to ascertain whether the valuations in one town bore just relation to the valuations in all other towns in the county, and were empowered to increase or diminish the aggregate valuations of real estate in any town accordingly. They could make whatever alterations in the description of the lands of nonresidents they deemed necessary, and were required to assess the value of any lands omitted by the assessor.<sup>7</sup> In 1883 the duties of the board of supervisors with regard to assessments were the following:

1. To assess omitted property.
2. To review assessments upon complaint.
3. To hear and determine the application of any person assessed on property claimed to be exempt from taxation.
4. To ascertain whether the valuation in one town or district bore just relation to the valuation in all towns or districts in the county and adjust the assessment.<sup>8</sup>

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1. L.1898, p. 46-49; L.1915, p. 466-70; L.1919, p. 727; L.1923, p. 496-502; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 85-90; L.1931-32, Sp. Sess., p. 70,71, 75-78; L.1935, p. 1163-66.
  2. L.1839, p. 7; L.1845, p. 8; R.S.1845, p. 441.
  3. L.1849, p. 65.
  4. L.1873-74, p. 79.
  5. St. Clair County adopted township organization in 1883, but the change was not effective until 1884.
  6. L.1851, p. 56; L.1871-72, p. 21,22,24,25.
  7. L.1851, p. 57,58; L.1871-72, p. 24,25.
  8. L.1871-72, p. 24,25.

In 1898 this authority was transferred to the newly created board of review, composed of the chairman of the county board who became ex-officio chairman of the board of review, the county clerk, and one citizen appointed by the county judge.<sup>1</sup> Since 1923 the board has consisted of the chairman of the county board as ex-officio chairman of the board of review, and two citizens appointed by the county judge. The members of the board select their own clerk. The two citizen members of the board are appointed alternately for a two-year term.<sup>2</sup> However, in counties the size of St. Clair the General Assembly provided for an elected board of review, to consist of three members, whose terms of office are six years. Their compensation is determined by the county board.<sup>3</sup>

Today, the board of review in St. Clair County is required to assess taxable property omitted from the regular assessment, to review and correct assessments on property claimed to be incorrectly assessed, to increase or reduce the entire assessment if, in their opinion, it has not been made upon the proper basis, to hear and determine the application of any person assessed on property claimed to be exempt from taxation, and to correct errors or mistakes, except errors of judgment, as to the valuation of any property, any time before judgment.<sup>4</sup>

For other taxation records, see entries 1, 36-87, 338-342, 346-362, 442, 445, 446.

343. (TAX COMPLAINTS), 1922--. 15 bdl.

Tax complaints filed by property owners, showing name and address of owner, legal description of property, assessed value, complaint number, dates of complaint and filing, amount of reduction requested, and signature of assessor. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 6 x 6 x 8. Bd. of assrs. - bd. of review rm., bsmt.

344. TAX OBJECTIONS, 1934--. 4 f.b. 1872-1933 in Law Files, entry 173.

Tax objections appealed from board of review to county court, showing name of owner, legal description of property, amounts of assessment, reductions, and judgment, and signature of owner. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

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1. L.1898, p. 46.
  2. L.1923, p. 496,497; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 71,72.
  3. L.1898, p. 46; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 72,73. Population of St. Clair County was 138,520 in 1920; 157,775 in 1930. Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S. Census 1930, p. 31.
  4. L.1898, p. 46-49; L.1915, p. 566-70; L.1919, p. 727; L.1923, p. 496-502; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 85-90; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 70,71, 75-78; L.1935, p. 1163-66.



345. COMPLAINT DOCKET (Board of Review Record), 1902--. 21 v.

Missing: 1921-34.

Docket of tax complaints and record of board of review, showing number and date of complaint, name and address of complainant, legal description of property, assessed value, value as alleged by complainant, and final disposition of case. 1902-20, arr. chron.; 1935--, arr. alph. by name of twp. Indexed alph. by name of complainant. 1902-20, hdw.; 1935--, hdw. under printed hdgs. 300 - 1000 p. 14 x 7 x 1 - 24 x 16 x 3. 19 v., 1902-20, common vlt., bsmt.; 2 v., 1935--, bd. of assrs. - bd. of review rm., bsmt.

## XII. COLLECTOR

Tax collections in St. Clair County were made by the sheriff as ex-officio county collector from 1799 to 1883,<sup>1</sup> with the exception of four years, 1839 to 1843, when there existed a separate office of county collector filled by appointment by the county commissioners' court.<sup>2</sup> The sheriff continued to act in this capacity until 1883; in that year township organization was instituted in this county,<sup>3</sup> and tax collections became the joint responsibility of the townships and the county, with the county treasurer acting as ex-officio county collector.<sup>4</sup>

Under this plan, town collectors, elected, one in each township,<sup>5</sup> made collections of resident property taxes,<sup>6</sup> while nonresident and delinquent taxes were collected by the county treasurer.<sup>7</sup> By the terms of an act of 1855, the town collectors were required to return their tax lists or books to the county collector who delivered them to the county clerk.<sup>8</sup> This provision was changed in 1872 by an act of the General Assembly which provided that the county collector should make an annual sworn statement to

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1. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 469,472; Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 69; Laws of the Territory of Illinois, II, 628. L.1819, p. 316; L.1821, p. 100; L.1823, p. 80; R.L.1827, p. 370,374; L.1839, p. 7; L.1843, p. 234; L.1853, p. 99.
  2. L.1839, p. 7; L.1843, p. 234; L.1853, p. 99.
  3. From 1873 to 1883, St. Clair County was under the county commission form of government, in the latter year township organization was adopted.
  4. L.1851, p. 38,59-64; L.1853, p. 14,25-29,67.
  5. L.1851, p. 38.
  6. Ibid., p. 59.
  7. Ibid., p. 53.
  8. L.1855, p. 37.

the county clerk, showing the total amount of each kind of tax collected, the amount received from each town collector, and the amount collected by himself.<sup>1</sup>

The legislature in 1917 provided that the office of town collector in counties of fewer than one hundred thousand inhabitants be abolished, and that the county collector be ex-officio town collector in such counties.<sup>2</sup> This did not alter the collection procedure in St. Clair County as its population was over one hundred thousand inhabitants.<sup>3</sup>

The county collector is bonded in an amount determined upon by the county board, in addition to that bond required of him as county treasurer.<sup>4</sup> Under statutory provisions, he collects taxes for the state, county, and other governmental agencies, and pays to the proper authorities the amount in his hands payable to them.<sup>5</sup> He also settles annually with the county board.<sup>6</sup> He prepares an annual list of delinquent property and files it with the county clerk;<sup>7</sup> advertises his intention of applying for judgment for sale of delinquent lands and lots;<sup>8</sup> and is required to attend, in person or by deputy, all tax sales resulting from this action.<sup>9</sup> The county clerk, in person or by deputy, is also required to attend all tax sales.<sup>10</sup> At such sales, the clerk and collector note and make entry of all tax sales and forfeitures to the state.<sup>11</sup>

The county collector is required to keep his records as collector of taxes separate from his records as county treasurer.<sup>12</sup> The records of the collector's office includes duplicates of receipts issued to taxpayers,

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1. L.1871-72, p. 56,57; L.1873-74, p. 56; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 66,67; L.1931, p. 756; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 112; L.1933, p. 873,921; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 220; L.1935, p. 1156,1213; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 69,70.
  2. L.1917, p. 793.
  3. The population of St. Clair County was 119,187 in 1910; 136,520 in 1920; and 157,775 in 1930. Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S. Census 1930, p. 31.
  4. L.1871-72, p. 36; L.1931, p. 748; L.1931-32 First Sp. Sess., p. 85,86; L.1934-35, Third Sp. Sess., p. 225,226.
  5. L.1871-72, p. 56,59; L.1933, p. 922; L.1935, p. 1156,1213; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 69,70.
  6. L.1871-72, p. 55; L.1935, p. 1155,1156.
  7. L.1898, p. 51; L.1931, p. 759.
  8. L.1871-72, p. 44; L.1937, p. 1010.
  9. L.1871-72, p. 48; L.1930, First Sp. Sess., p. 64.
  10. L.1871-72, p. 48.
  11. Ibid., L.1933, p. 886.
  12. L.1917, p. 664,665; L.1930, First Sp. Sess., p. 60-62; L.1935, p. 1149-58.

Collector - Assessments,  
Objections; Collection,  
Settlement

(346-349)

state auditor's and county clerk's certification of the collector's settlement with them, duplicates of the collector's reports, delinquent property records, and tax sale and forfeiture records.

For other taxation records, see entries 1, 36-87, 338-345, 442, 445, 446.

#### Assessments, Objections

346. RAILROAD BOOKS (and Telegraph and Telephone), 1872--. 64 v.  
(36 not numbered, 1-10, 18 not numbered). Missing: 1882,  
1888, 1895-97.

Lists of taxable railroad and telegraph property, including telephone property subsequent to 1880, showing name of company, miles of track, value of right of way, poles and equipment, rolling stock, value as listed by company, equalized value as fixed by county and state boards, tax rate, tax spread, amount of back tax, total tax, and date of payment. Arr. chron. 1872-1930, indexed alph. by name of company; 1931--, no index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1260 p. 18 x 14 x 1½. 36 v. not numbered, 1872-1908, v. 1-10, 1909-19, common vlt., bsmt.; 13 v. not numbered, 1920-32, museum vlt., bsmt.; 5 v. not numbered, 1933--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

#### Collection, Settlement

347. DUPLICATE RECEIPTS, 1930--. 5 v.

Duplicate receipts for taxes collected from railroad, telegraph, and telephone companies, showing name and address of company, legal description of property, date and number of receipt, amount of taxes collected, and tax spread. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of company. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 400 p. 12 x 9 x 2. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

348. PERSONAL TAX REPORTS (Receipts), 1926--. 100 bdl.

Duplicate receipts for personal property taxes paid, showing date, amount and number of receipt, name of owner, description of property, and signature of county treasurer. Arr. by receipt no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 15 x 16 x 9. 98 bdl., 1926-34, common vlt., bsmt.; 2 bdl., 1935--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

349. DUPLICATE TAX RECEIPTS, 1918--. 325 v. (122 not numbered, 1-3, 200 not numbered).

Duplicate tax receipts showing name and address of owner, legal description of property, name and number of township, amount of tax, by whom paid, and date of payment. Arr. by receipt no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 1000 p. 9 x 8 x 2. 279 v. not numbered, 1918-21, 1924-34, museum vlt., 1st fl.; v. 1-3, 1922-23, common vlt., bsmt.; 43 v. not numbered, 1935--; treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.



350. COLLECTOR'S CASH BOOK, 1905--. 27 v. 1859-1904 in County Treasurer's Cash Receipt Book, entry 367.

Treasurer's register of cash received as county tax collector, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt, name of payer, tax spread, amount of delinquent tax, interest, costs, forfeiture and interest, total amount collected, name of bank in which deposited, and name of payee. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 17 x 22 x 3. 22 v., 1905-30, common vlt., bsmt.; 5 v., 1931--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

351. COUNTY COLLECTOR'S DAILY CASH STATEMENT, 1933--. 4 v.

County collector's record of daily cash collections, showing date, amount, and purpose of collection, amount of taxes collected by township, name of bank in which deposited, and total amount of taxes collected. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 12 x 10 x 1. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

352. LEDGER (Collector), 1933--. 1 v.

Collector's account of county funds, showing amount of tax collections in each township, tax spread, date of collection, and total amount of taxes collected and distributed. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1000 p. 14 x 12 x 3. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

353. SETTLEMENTS, 1930--. 6 v.

Collector's account with treasurer, showing date and amount of taxes received, tax spread, total amount of taxes collected and deposited with treasurer, and signature of county treasurer. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of twp. Typed under pr. hdgs. 270 p. 12 x 10 x 1½. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

354. REPORTS OF H. G. VIEN, SPECIAL COLLECTOR OF PERSONAL TAXES, 1921-24. 1 bdl. Discontinued.

Report of personal property taxes collected, showing date, name of taxpayer, amount of taxes paid, and total amount of taxes collected. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 9 x 2 x 14. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

#### Delinquent Tax, Abatement

355. COLLECTORS' CREDITS, 1903--. 31 v.

Town collectors' requests to board of supervisors for credit for delinquent taxes, showing date, amount, and type of delinquent taxes, name of township, tax spread, amount of interest and costs, total amount of taxes due, and page of entry in collector's book. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 18 x 24 x 2. 27 v., 1903-31, common vlt., bsmt.; 4 v., 1932--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

356. DELINQUENT TAX BOOKS, 1916--. 107 v.

Delinquent tax lists showing name of owner, legal description of property, assessed value, amounts of taxes, costs, and interest, tax spread, date, and amount paid. 1916-19, arr. by subdivision no.; 1920--, arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 16 x 24 x 2. 97 v., 1916-26, common vlt., bsmt.; 10 v., 1927, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Collector - Delinquent  
Tax, Abatement

(357-362)

357. RECEIPTS OF LOCAL OFFICERS, 1903-30. 8 v. (4 not numbered, 1, 3 not numbered). 1931-- in Ledger (Treasurer's), entry 366. Register of delinquent taxes received, showing names of payer and collector, date received, and tax spread. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 14 x 9 x 2. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

358. TAX RECEIPTS, 1921--. 49 v. Receipts for delinquent taxes paid, showing name and address of taxpayer, legal description of property, and date, number, and amount of receipt. Arr. by receipt no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 9 x 7 x 2. 3 v., 1921-23, common vlt., bsmt.; 46 v., 1924-- , treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

359. DISTRIBUTION OF BACK TAXES, 1869--. 3 v. (2 not numbered, 3), 6 bdl. Missing: 1879-82. Record of back taxes collected, showing name of payer, legal description of property, amounts of interest and costs, total amount paid, and tax spread. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. V. 250 p. 17 x 15 x 2; bdl. 10 x 8 x 1. 2 v. not numbered, 1869-78, 6 bdl., 1916-- , common vlt., bsmt.; v. 3, 1883-1915, museum vlt., bsmt.

360. ABATEMENT LIST, 1936--. 66 folders. Lists of tax abatements, showing date, name of owner, legal description of property, value, equalized value as fixed by state board, road and school district numbers, tax spread, total tax abatements, and remarks. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 16 x 14. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

361. SPECIAL TAX, DELINQUENT, 1917-18. 2 v. Discontinued. Collector's list of delinquent special assessments of East St. Louis sewer improvement, showing names of owner and subdivision, lot and block numbers, legal description of property, and amount of delinquent tax. Arr. alph. by name of subdivision. Indexed alph. by name of property owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 220 p. 21 x 20 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

362. DELINQUENT RETURNS OF EAST ST. LOUIS, 1920. 1 v. Collector's record of delinquent tax rebates, showing name of owner, amount of excess assessment and rebato, amount of delinquent tax and of taxes collected, collector's commission, and total amount paid treasurer. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 18 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

## XIII. TREASURER

In St. Clair County the treasurer was first appointed by the Governor of the Northwest Territory in 1792;<sup>1</sup> however, the office was abolished and the duties were performed by the sheriff from 1804 to 1814<sup>2</sup> when the office of county treasurer was reestablished.<sup>3</sup> This officer continued in office until 1825 when the sheriff assumed the duties during the following two years.<sup>4</sup> In 1827 the legislature reestablished the office, again providing that a treasurer be appointed annually by the county commissioners' court.<sup>5</sup> From 1837 to the present, the treasurer has been elected by the people of the county,<sup>6</sup> and is commissioned by the Governor for a four-year term.<sup>7</sup> In 1880, by amendment to the Constitution of 1870, it was provided that no treasurer be eligible for reelection to the office until four years after the expiration of his term of office.<sup>8</sup> The penal sum of the treasurer's bond and his securities are determined by the county board.<sup>9</sup> Upon request of the treasurer, the board designates the bank in which the public funds are to be deposited.

In the performance of his duties, the treasurer receives the county revenue, has custody of its funds, and disburses them in accordance with orders of the county board or specific authorization by law. He is required to keep books of accounts of all funds received and disbursed by him, to maintain a register of county orders countersigned and paid, to report annually to the county board on the financial transactions of his

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1. Laws of the Northwest Territory 1788-1800, Law Series, I, 68, 495.
  2. Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809, Law Series, II, 81, 494.
  3. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, II, 600. Beginning in 1819 the county commissioners' court appointed the county treasurer (L.1819, p. 315).
  4. L.1825, p. 178.
  5. R.L.1827, p. 329; R.L.1833, p. 515, 516.
  6. R.L.1837, p. 49, 274; L.1845, p. 28; R.S.1845, p. 137; L.1851, p. 144; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
  7. The term was set at four years in 1837 (R.L.1837, p. 274); it was later reduced to two years (L.1845, p. 28; L.1851, p. 144). The office was made constitutional in 1870 without change of term (Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8). Then in 1880, the term was lengthened to four years (Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8, as amended November, 1880).
  8. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8, as amended November, 1880.
  9. R.L.1827, p. 329; R.S.1874, p. 323. The bond is required to be filed in the office of the county clerk.



office, and to settle his accounts with the board semiannually.<sup>1</sup> The last two requirements give rise to a number of segregated records of accounts beyond strict statutory requirements. In addition, reports are made to the treasurer by other county, district, public, and semi-public authorities in the process of transacting business with him; and, finally, a large number of records arise from the requirement for collectors of taxes to settle their accounts with the treasurer.<sup>2</sup>

The treasurer acts as ex-officio treasurer of the special drainage district.<sup>3</sup>

General Accounts  
(See also entries 1, 3-15, 376-396)

Registers and Ledgers

363. WARRANT REGISTER, 1904--. 3 v.

Register of warrants issued on all county funds, showing date, number, amount, and purpose of warrant, name of recipient, fund drawn upon, and date of cancellation. Also contains Highway Warrant Register, 1904-29, entry 370. Arr. by warrant no. Indexed alph. by name of fund. Typed under pr. hdgs. 1246 p. 18 x 15 x 3. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

364. COUNTY TREASURER'S RECORD OF PAYMENT OF COUNTY ORDERS AND JURY CERTIFICATES, 1904-22. 8 v. (1 not labeled, 2-8). 1859-1903 in County Treasurer's Cash Receipt Book, entry 367; 1923-- in Ledger (Treasurer's), entry 366.

Register of county orders paid, including witness and jury certificates, and highway warrants, showing date, number, amount, and purpose of warrant or certificate, name of recipient, and date of cancellation. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 17 x 12 x 3. Museum vlt., bsmt.

365. REGISTER OF ORDERS ISSUED FOR ENGLISH SPARROWS' BOUNTY PAID BY COUNTY, 1891. 1 v. Discontinued.

Register of English sparrow bounty warrants, showing date, amount, and number of warrant, name of recipient, and signatures of treasurer and deputy. Arr. by warrant no. Indexed alph. by name of recipient. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 14 x 9 x 1½. Common vlt., bsmt.

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1. R.L.1837, p. 582,583; L.1843, p. 151; R.S.1845, p. 137-39; L.1861, p. 239,240; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
  2. R.L.1827, p. 330-33; L.1839, p. 8-10; L.1845, p. 11; L.1895, p. 304; L.1913, p. 516; L.1933, p. 898.
  3. L.1885, p. 78,104.

## 366. LEDGER (Treasurer's), 1922--. 1 v.

Itemized account of receipts and disbursements of all county funds, including dog tax fund, birth and death accounts, and non-high school fund, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt or disbursement, name of recipient or payer, fund credited or debited, total amount of receipts and disbursements, and balance available. Also contains Receipts of Local Officers, 1931--, entry 357, and County Treasurer's Record of Payment of County Orders and Jury Certificates, 1923--, entry 364. Arr. alph. by name of accounts. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1000 p. 14 x 12 x 3. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Cash Books

## 367. COUNTY TREASURER'S CASH RECEIPT BOOK, 1859--. 8 v.

Treasurer's register of cash receipts, including highway funds and inheritance taxes, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt, names of payer, and fund credited, total amount of receipts, date, name of bank, and amount deposited. Also contains Collector's Cash Book, 1859-1904, entry 350, and County Treasurer's Record of Payment of County Orders and Jury Certificates, 1859-1903, entry 364. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 24 x 18 x 2. 4 v., 1859-1921, museum vlt., bsmt.; 4 v., 1922--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Special Accounts  
(See also entry 366)Probate

## 368. LEDGER (Heirship Fund), 1922--. 1 v.

Record of trust funds for minors and unknown heirs, showing date, case number, name of estate, date, amount of payments, name of payee, and signature of claimant. Arr. alph. by name of estate. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 10 x 12 x 4. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Inheritance Tax (See  
also entry 209)

## 369. INHERITANCE TAX, 1918--. 1 f.b., 2 bdl.

Treasurer's files of inheritance tax papers, including schedules and legal description of real estate, appraiser's report, list of heirs, and tax warrants, showing names of estate, administrative officer, and heirs, value of property, amount of tax, date of payment, and signatures of county and state treasurers. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. F.b. 14 x 6 x 4; bdl. 10 x 8 x 12. 1 bdl., 1918-22, museum vlt., bsmt.; 1 bdl., 1923-31, common vlt., bsmt.; 1 f.b., 1932--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Highway (See also  
entries 392, 432)

370. HIGHWAY WARRANT REGISTER, 1930--. 1 v. 1904-29 in Warrant Register, entry 363.

Register of warrants issued against highway funds, including state-aid road fund, motor fuel tax fund, and state bond issue, showing date, amount, number, and purpose of warrant, name of recipient, fund debited, and date of cancellation. Arr. by warrant no. Indexed alph. by name of fund. Typed under pr. hdgs. 1245 p. 18 x 15 x 3. Treas.'s off., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

371. HIGHWAY FUNDS RECEIVED, 1932. 1 v.

Register of highway funds received, including state-aid road funds, showing date, name of payer, number, amount, and purpose of receipt, and total receipts. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 18 x 12 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Dog License

372. DOG TAX, 1933--. 1 f.b.

Orders issued by board of supervisors against dog tax fund in payment of sheep claims, showing date, number, purpose, and amount of order, and name of recipient. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 12 x 10 x 24. Treas.'s off., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Reports

373. MONTHLY REPORT OF COUNTY TREASURER TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, 1933--. 52 v.

Copies of treasurer's monthly reports to the board of supervisors, showing activities and financial proceedings of this office, name of treasurer, and dates of report and filing. Arr. chron. No index. Typed. 25 p. 14 x 10 x 1. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

Checks and Bank Statements

374. DUPLICATE DEPOSIT SLIPS, 1933--. 5 bdl.

Duplicate slips for bank deposits made by treasurer, showing date, name of bank, amount of deposit, name of fund credited, and name of depositor. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 6 x 4 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

375. CHECK BOOK (Cancelled Checks), 1908--. 48 v.

Cancelled county checks showing date, amount, number, and purpose of check, name of recipient, signature of treasurer, and date of cancellation. Arr. by check no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 13 x 9 x 1. 42 v., 1908-32, common vlt., bsmt.; 6 v., 1933--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.



## XIV. AUDITOR

In 1911 the General Assembly enacted legislation requiring all counties under township organization with a population of more than seventy-five thousand and less than three hundred thousand to elect in November, 1912, and every four years thereafter, a county auditor.<sup>1</sup> As St. Clair County had already attained the population minimum, the office was accordingly established. The compensation of the auditor is set by the county board.<sup>2</sup> Since 1925, the county auditor has been required to furnish such bond as is deemed sufficient by the county board, which bond is filed with the county clerk.<sup>3</sup>

The auditor is charged with the following duties:

1. To audit all claims against the county, recommending to the county board their payment or rejection.
2. To collect statistical information with respect to the cost of maintenance of such institutions as the county farm, jail, workhouse, and courthouse.
3. To approve, before issuance, all orders of county officials for supplies.
4. To make a quarterly audit of all county offices.<sup>4</sup>

He is also required to keep a record of all contracts entered into by the county board and all authorized county offices, to report quarterly to the board all fees and emoluments due the county from its various officers, and to keep necessary records of his other acts in pursuance of the duties of his office.<sup>5</sup>

## General Accounts

(See also entries 1, 3-15, 363-372)

Appropriations

376. APPROPRIATION LEDGER, 1916--. 1 v.

Register of appropriations made by county board, including a record of receipts and disbursements, showing dates, amount, and purpose of appropriation, fund credited or debited, date, amount, number, and purpose of warrant, total amount of receipts and disbursements, and balance available. Arr. alph. by name of fund. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1000 p. 14 x 12 x 4. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

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1. L.1911, p. 242, 243.

2. Ibid., p. 242.

3. L.1925, p. 263.

4. L.1911, p. 242.

5. Ibid., p. 242, 243.

Accounts Payable

377. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE, 1903---. 8 v. (1-8). 1885-1902 in Supervisors' Record, entry 4.

Record of accounts payable, including records prior to the establishment of the auditor's office, showing date, nature of account, approval of board of supervisors, fund drawn upon, date, number, and amount of warrant, and name and address of recipient. Also contains Account Payable of Election Claims of County Outside of E. St. Louis, 1903-35, entry 378. Arr. alph. by name of recipient. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 12 x 12 x 3. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

378. ACCOUNT PAYABLE OF ELECTION CLAIMS OF COUNTY OUTSIDE OF E. ST. LOUIS, 1936---. 1 v. 1903-35 in Accounts Payable, entry 377.

Record of salaries paid judges and clerks of election in St. Clair County with exception of East St. Louis district, showing date, names of judge and clerk, and amount of salary. Arr. alph. by names of judge or clerk. No index. Hdw. 250 p. 12 x 13 x 1½. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

General Register of County Warrants

379. RECORD OF COUNTY ORDERS, 1862---. 20 v. (A-T). Title varies: Register of County Orders.

Register of all county orders, showing date, number, amount, and purpose of order, fund drawn upon, to whom paid, and date of cancellation. Also contains Warrant Register, 1862-1927, entry 8; County Clerk's Account with Physicians and Health Officers, 1914---, entry 127; Register of Petit Jurors' Warrants, County Court, 1862-1909, entry 382; Register of Petit Jurors' Warrants, Probate Court, 1862-1909, entry 383; Register of Petit Jurors' Warrants-Circuit Court, 1862-1911, entry 384; Register of Petit Juror Warrants, City Court, 1862-1909, entry 385; Register of Warrants of Board of Election Commissioners, 1862-1909, entry 390; and Miscellaneous Warrants, Highway Department, 1920-34, entry 392. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 23 x 3. V. A-M, 1862-1924, O, 1926-28, common vlt., bsmt.; v. N, 1925, P-T, 1929---, aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

380. DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTY TREASURER OF ST. CLAIR COUNTY, 1918---. 3 v.

Register of all cancelled county warrants, including the monthly report of the county treasurer, showing date, amount, number, and purpose of warrant, fund drawn upon, name of recipient, and date of cancellation. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 19 x 28 x 2½. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

Special Accounts

Warrants for Jury and  
Witness' Fees

381. COUNTY COURT WARRANTS FOR PETIT JURORS, 1882--. 2 f.b.  
Cancelled petit jurors' warrants in county court cases, showing date,  
amount, number, and purpose of warrant, names of juror and court, and  
date of cancellation. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr.  
fm. 24 x 10 x 6. 1 f.b., 1882-1928, common vlt., bsmt.; 1 f.b.,  
1929--, aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

382. REGISTER OF PETIT JURORS' WARRANTS, COUNTY COURT, 1910--.  
1 v. 1862-1909 in Record of County Orders, entry 379.  
Register of petit jurors' warrants in county court cases, showing date,  
amount, and number of warrant, name of juror, and date of payment. Arr.  
by warrant no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 14 x 10 x 1.  
Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

383. REGISTER OF PETIT JURORS' WARRANTS, PROBATE COURT, 1910--.  
1 v. 1862-1909 in Record of County Orders, entry 379.  
Register of petit jurors' warrants in probate court cases, showing  
date, amount, and number of warrant, name of juror, and date of pay-  
ment. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p.  
14 x 10 x 1. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

384. REGISTER OF PETIT JURORS' WARRANTS - CIRCUIT COURT, 1912--.  
2 v. (1, 2). 1862-1911 in Record of County Orders, entry 379.  
Register of petit jurors' warrants issued in the circuit court, showing  
date, number, and amount of warrant, name of juror, and date of cancel-  
lation. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p.  
14 x 10 x 1½. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

385. REGISTER OF PETIT JUROR WARRANTS, CITY COURT, 1910--. 2 v.  
(1 not numbered, 2). 1862-1909 in Record of County Orders,  
entry 379.  
Register of petit jurors' warrants in city court cases, showing date,  
amount, and number of warrant, name of juror, and date of cancellation.  
Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 410 p. 14½ x 10  
x 2. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

386. REGISTER OF CORONER'S JURORS' WARRANTS, 1912--. 4 v. (1-4).  
Register of coroner's jury warrants, showing date, number, and amount  
of warrant, name of juror, and date of cancellation. Arr. by warrant  
no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 14 x 10 x 1½. Aud.'s  
off., 2nd fl.

387. REGISTER OF WITNESS' FEE CERTIFICATES, 1927--. 1 v. (1).  
Register of witness' fee certificates for criminal cases in circuit and  
city courts, showing date, amount, and number of certificate, name of  
witness, and date of cancellation. Arr. by certificate no. Indexed  
alph. by name of witness. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 14 x 10 x 1½.  
Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.



388. CANCELLED WARRANTS FOR FOREIGN WITNESS CERTIFICATES, 1902--.  
3 f.b.

Cancelled foreign witness' warrants, including records prior to establishment of auditor's office, showing date, amount, number, and purpose of warrant, to whom paid, and date of cancellation. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 24. 2 f.b., 1902-27, common vlt., bsnt.; 1 f.b., 1928--, aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

Warrants of Election Officials

389. REGISTER OF BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS' SALARY CERTIFICATES AND COURT REPORTER SALARY CERTIFICATES, 1915--. 2 v. (1 not numbered, 1).

Register of salary certificates of board of election commissioners and court reporters for county, circuit, and city courts, showing date, amount, number, and purpose of certificate, names of commissioner, reporter, and court, and date of cancellation. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 14 x 10 x 2. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

390. REGISTER OF WARRANTS OF BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS, 1910--.  
2 v. (1, 2). 1862-1909 in Record of County Orders, entry 379.

Register of warrants of election commissioners of East St. Louis, showing date, amount, and number of warrant, name of commissioner, and date of cancellation. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 316 p. 14 x 10 x 1½. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

391. ELECTION COMMISSIONERS, JUDGES', AND CLERKS' WARRANTS, 1927--.  
3 cartons.

Cancelled warrants of election commissioners, judges, and clerks, showing date, amount, number, and purpose of warrant, name of recipient, and date of cancellation. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5½ x 24. 2 cartons, 1927-34, common vlt., bsmt.; 1 carton, 1935--, aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

Highway Warrants

392. MISCELLANEOUS WARRANTS, HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, 1935--. 1 v. (1).  
1920-34 in Record of County Orders, entry 379.

Register of miscellaneous county highway warrants, showing date, number, amount, and purpose of warrant, to whom paid, and date of cancellation. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 14½ x 12 x 2. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

Pension and Relief Warrants and Applications

393. BLIND RELIEF, 1911--. 2 v. (1 not numbered, 2). Title varies:  
Relief for Blind.

Record of applications and warrants for relief of blind, showing date, application and warrant numbers, name and address of applicant, report of examiner, affidavits of two citizens, date referred to examiner, amount, and date of payment. Arr. by application no. No index. 1911-33, hdw.; 1934--, hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 10 x 13 x 3. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

394. BLIND APPLICATIONS, 1910--. 3 f.b.

Original applications for relief of blind, showing name, address, and age of applicant, amount of income, date of application, and sworn statement by examining physician. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 12. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

395. REGISTER OF MOTHERS' PENSION, 1923--. 3 v. (1-3). Title varies: Register of Mothers' Pension Relief Certificates.

Register of mothers' pension relief certificates, showing date, number, and amount of certificate, names of pensioner, township, and date of cancellation. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 396 p. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 10 x 2. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

396. (PAUPER ACCOUNT), 1931--. 2 v.

Record of payments made to county by townships, for care of paupers at county home and hospital, showing date, amount, and number of claim, date and amount of payment, and names of pauper and township. Arr. by claim no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 12 x 18 x 2. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

Bond Issues  
(See also entries 18, 122)

397. REGISTER OF BONDS ISSUED, 1917--. 1 v. (1).

Register of road bonds issued for construction and maintenance of county roads, showing name of bond holder, date, amount, and number of bond, rate of interest, series number, and date of maturity. Arr. by bond no. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 318 p. 17 x 15 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

398. REGISTER REFUNDING BOND, 1936--. 1 v. (2).

Register of refunding bonds, showing date, number, and amount of bond, name of principal, rate of interest, date of issue, series number, and date payable. Arr. by bond no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 17 x 15 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

Reports

399. REPORTS OF COUNTY TREASURER, 1922--. 17 f.b.

Copies of treasurer's monthly reports to board of supervisors of receipts and disbursements of county funds, including statements from the bank, showing name of fund, dates and amounts of receipts and disbursements, and balance available in each fund. Arr. chron. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 12. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

400. T.B. ERADICATION, 1924--. 3 f.b.

Card record of tuberculin tests, compiled from reports received from county veterinarian, showing name and address of stock owner, number of cattle tested, and results. Arr. by twp. and alph. by name of owner. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 12. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

401. CIRCUIT, COUNTY, CITY, AND JUSTICE COURT FINES AND FEES, 1913-22. 1 v. 1867-1912, 1923-- in Circuit Court Records (Criminal), entry 274.

Copies of state's attorney's reports of fines and fees collected in circuit, county, city, and justice of the peace court cases, including all correspondence, showing names of justices, police magistrate, judge, and defendant, amount of fine, date of payment, and remarks. Arr. alph. by name of court, police magistrate, or justice of the peace. Indexed alph. by name of principal. Hdw. 272 p. 14 x 9 x 2. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

Claims Rejected  
(See also entries 1, 4, 5)

402. REJECTED CLAIMS, 1928--. 3 f.b.

Files of county claims rejected by board of supervisors, showing name of claimant, date, amount, purpose, and number of claim, and reason for rejection by board. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 12. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

County Supplies

403. BIDS, 1919--. 6 f.b.

Bids for food and equipment for maintenance of all county institutions, including printing bids for county offices, showing name of bidder, date, and amount of bid, and kind of commodity or supplies on which bid is presented. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 15 - 14 x 12 x 16. 1 f.b., 1919-25, common vlt., 1st fl.; 5 f.b., 1926-- , aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

404. ANNUAL RECORD OF STATIONERY (and Office) SUPPLIES, 1920--. 3 v. Record of supplies issued to all county offices, showing name of office, date, kind, and cost of supplies. Arr. alph. by kind of supplies. No index. Hdw. 250 p. 12 x 15 x 1½. Aud.'s off., 2nd fl.

XV. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The first county school official in St. Clair was the school commissioner.<sup>1</sup> The principal duties of this officer, an appointee of the county commissioners' court, centered around the sale of school lands. His reports of these sales were made to the county commissioners' court and recorded by their clerk in a well-bound book kept for that purpose.<sup>2</sup>

1. R.L.1829, p. 150,151.

2. Ibid., p. 152,153; L.1849, p. 155,156,159,160; L.1851, p. 130.



The school commissioner also reported to the commissioners' court on his other transactions in regard to the school fund.<sup>1</sup> His office became elective in 1841.<sup>2</sup> In 1845 the office of county superintendent of schools was created as an ex-officio office of the county school commissioner.<sup>3</sup> For his ex-officio duties as superintendent of schools, the commissioner received additional compensation for the days actually engaged in the performance of these duties.<sup>4</sup> Beginning with the year 1847, the school commissioner was elected for a two-year term.<sup>5</sup> In 1865 the office of county superintendent of schools was established as an independent office, and had delegated to it the authority formerly vested in the county school commissioner.<sup>6</sup>

The superintendent of schools is a statutory office, now elective for a term of four years.<sup>7</sup> The superintendent's office serves as the central school administrative agency for the county. One or more of the several congressional townships comprise the several school districts. Within these administrative units are elected boards of trustees who have executive and financial responsibilities which come under the supervision of the county superintendent.<sup>8</sup> The boards of trustees appoint their own treasurers who also act as clerks of the township (or school district) boards.<sup>9</sup>

The superintendent makes quarterly and annual reports to the county board and also reports to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Department of Public Health, and state fire marshal, and the state architect. His original duties are the following:

1. To sell township fund lands and issue certificates of purchase.
2. To examine the complete accounts of every township treasurer in his county and report irregularities of the township trustees.
3. To conduct a teachers' institute, hold quarterly examinations for teachers' certificates, and issue such.
4. To hold examinations for normal and university scholarships.

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1. L.1831, p. 175.
  2. L.1841, p. 261, 262.
  3. L.1845, p. 54.
  4. L.1849, p. 178; L.1867, p. 161.
  5. L.1847, p. 120; L.1849, p. 154.
  6. L.1865, p. 112; L.1871-72, p. 702; L.1889, p. 312; L.1909, p. 343.
  7. L.1871-72, p. 702; L.1909, p. 343; L.1915, p. 628; L.1923, p. 596.
  8. L.1847, p. 126; L.1909, p. 350; L.1929, p. 745.
  9. L.1927, p. 843; L.1929, p. 745.

5. To visit the public schools in the county, observe methods of instruction, make recommendations to teachers, and advise school officers; to observe sanitary and safety conditions, and notify trustees and state authorities of unsatisfactory conditions; to inspect plans and specifications, and approve those meeting state regulations.<sup>1</sup>

A noteworthy undertaking of the superintendent of schools is the annual teachers' institute. Pioneer legislation of 1869 provided that the school directors were to allow school teachers to attend the teachers' institute in their county without the loss of time or pay.<sup>2</sup> Twenty years later, the superintendent of schools was required to hold the institute annually.<sup>3</sup> A fund was set up for this purpose which has continued to be made up of the fees received from applicants for teachers' certificates and from teachers' registrations. Money from the fund is paid out only on the order of the superintendent to defray the expense of the annual institute. When the fund exceeds the annual cost of the institute, the excess may be paid out for special meetings of teachers.<sup>4</sup>

For original certificates issued in connection with the sale of school lands (paragraph one, this essay), see Appendix K.

Accounts of School Funds  
(See also entry 366)

405. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS CASH BOOK, 1850---. 5 v.  
(2 not numbered, 1-3). Missing: 1887-1905. Title varies:  
Day Book.

Superintendent's ledger of receipts and disbursements including state distributive funds, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt or disbursement, name of payer or recipient, fund debited or credited, total amount of receipts and disbursements and balance available. Arr. chron. No index. 1850-86, hdw.; 1906--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 8 x 12 x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

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1. R.S.1845, p. 498,499; L.1847, p. 122; L.1849, p. 156; L.1853, p. 246, 247; L.1855, p. 66,67; L.1861, p. 190,191; L.1865, p. 119,120; L.1909, p. 347-50; L.1915, p. 636-38.
  2. L.1869, p. 394.
  3. L.1889, p. 312.
  4. L.1905, p. 385; L.1931, p. 876.

406. STATE TEACHERS' PENSION FUND, 1915--. 1 v.

Record of state teachers' pension fund, showing name and address of teacher, district number, whether compulsory or elective contributor, number of years of teaching, total amount contributed, monthly and yearly salary, and total amount deducted for pension and retirement fund. Arr. by district no. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 9 x 14 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

School Districts

407. NON-HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (Records), 1917--. 1 f.b.

Non-high school district files of correspondence, election returns, petitions, ballots, receipts for supplies of various non-high school districts, including correspondence from other states and counties relating to non-high school matters in their particular location. No obvious arr. No index. Typed and hdw. on pr. fm.; typed and hdw.; typed and hdw. under pr. hdgs. 12 x 5 x 18. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

408. NON-HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 202, 1917--. 2 v.

Record of pupils from non-high school districts attending high school, including claims for tuition, showing name, age, and address of pupil, name and district number of high school, home district number, type of diploma, months of attendance, date and amount of claim, and per capita cost of maintenance. Arr. chron. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 274 p. 15 x 12 x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

409. PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION NON-HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 202, 1917--. 1 v.

Record of minutes of board of education of non-high school districts, including record of non-high school fund, official oaths taken by members of board, correspondence read and acted upon, tuition claims of various school districts presented and allowed, and election results, and all other business appearing before board. Arr. chron. No index. Typed. 86 p. 14 x 12 x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

Teachers' Records

410. TEACHERS' PERMANENT RECORD CARDS, 1914--. 3 f.b. 1881-1925  
in volume form, Teachers' Permanent Record, entry 411.

Teachers' permanent record showing name, address, and age of teacher, grade and number of certificate, school attended, salary, subject and grade taught, teaching experience, and amount contributed to teachers' pension and retirement fund. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 6 x 9 x 18. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.



411. TEACHERS' PERMANENT RECORD, 1881-1925. 12 v. (6 not lettered, A-F). Discontinued.

Teachers' permanent record showing name, age, and address of teacher, grade of certificate, school attended, salary, subject and grade taught, teaching experience, and amount contributed to teachers' pension and retirement fund. Also contains County Superintendent's Examination Record, 1881-1913, entry 419. Subsequent to 1914, this record was also kept on cards, see Teachers' Permanent Record Cards, entry 410. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. 1881-1913, no index; 1914-25, indexed alph. by name of teacher. 1881-1913, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1914-25, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 10 x 16 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

412. JOURNAL (of Teachers' Institute Attendance), 1902-9. 1 v. Discontinued.

Register of teachers attending county institute, showing name and address of teacher, name and number of school district, and number of days in attendance. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of teacher. 1902-5, hdw.; 1906-9, newspaper clippings pasted in volume. 194 p. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 8 x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

413. CERTIFICATE STUB BOOK, 1900--. 20 v.

Stubs of various grades and types of certificates issued to elementary school teachers, showing date, number, and type of certificates, name, age, and address of teacher, and dates of examination and expiration of certificates. Arr. by certificate no. 1900-1909, 1915--, no index; 1910-14, indexed alph. by name of teacher. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 p. 8 x 14 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

### Pupil Records

414. RECORD OF EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATES, 1904--. 3 v.

Register of eighth grade graduates of county schools, showing number of graduates, district number, name, age, and address of pupil, grade attained, date of examination, and signature of pupil. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 8 x 12 x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

### Reports

415. STATE'S ATTORNEY'S REPORT, 1909-14. 1 f.b.

State's attorney's report to county superintendent of schools, regarding fines, penalties, and forfeitures imposed by courts for violation of school laws, showing names of defendant and court, kind of charge, amount of fine or penalty imposed, date, amount of fine or penalty collected, and signature of state's attorney. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 12 x 5 x 18. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

416. REPORTS OF CLAIMS FOR STATE AID, 1928--. 1 f.b.

Original claims for state aid filed by school districts, showing date, amount, and number of claim, school district number, assessed value, amount of tax levied by school board for education and maintenance, tax rate, number of teachers employed and pupils enrolled, daily attendance, amount of state aid due, and signatures of superintendent and principal or teacher. Arr. chron. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 14 x 12 x 24. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

417. ANNUAL REPORT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, 1885--. 1 f.b.

Annual reports of superintendent of schools, showing census, enrollment, names of teachers, positions, qualifications, promotion of health and attendance, tax levies, annual salaries of rural, elementary, and high school teachers, district, distributive, and township funds, receipts and expenditures, tuitions paid, exhibits, investments, general and financial reports, number of one-room schools, and memoranda. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 15 x 11 x 24. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

418. ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (of Teachers' Certificates), 1905--. 1 f.b.

Superintendent's annual report of fees received for registration and renewal of teachers' certificates, showing date, amount, and purpose of fee, amount of disbursements, and balance available. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 12 x 5 x 18. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

419. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT'S EXAMINATION RECORD, 1914--. 1 v. 1881-1913 in Teachers' Permanent Record, entry 411.

Reports to superintendent of schools of teachers' examinations, showing name, age, and address of teacher, subject, grades, rating, date of examination, and grade of certificate earned. Arr. alph. by name of applicant. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

420. MAGISTRATE REPORT, 1909-14. 1 f.b.

Report of police magistrate or justice of peace to superintendent of schools of fines and penalties collected for violation of school laws, showing date, names of defendant, officer, city or town, nature of charge, and amount of fine or penalty. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 12 x 5 x 18. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

421. TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT, 1913--. 1 f.b.

Annual reports of district school trustees, including a record of school loans, showing names of schools, trustees, and teacher, school census, district number, number of students in each school, qualifications of teachers, income from taxes and other sources, and account of expenditures. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 15 x 11 x 24. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

Superintendent of Schools -  
Register of Officers, Teachers;  
Treasurers' Bonds; Maps and Plats

(422-425)

422. REPORT OF INSTITUTE FUND, 1883--. 9 v.

Copies of reports of superintendent of schools to county treasurer of institute funds, showing date, amount, number, and purpose of order or receipt, name of payer or recipient, total amount of receipts and disbursements, and balance available. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 8 x 14 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

Register of School Officers and Teachers

423. TEACHERS AND SCHOOL OFFICERS DIRECTORY (Register of School Officers), 1896--. 352 v.

Register of school officers and teachers, showing district number, names and addresses of teachers, trustees, and directors, date of expiration of directors' terms, grade of teachers' certificates, salary, months of term served, and name of township. Arr. by district no. 1896-1910, no index; 1911--, indexed alph. by name of twp. 1896-1906, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1907--, printed. 50 - 200 p. 8 x 6 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 12 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

School Treasurers' Bonds  
(See also entry 160)

424. BONDS OF TOWNSHIP SCHOOL TREASURER, 1904--. 1 f.b.

Township school treasurers' bonds showing names of principal, trustees, and sureties, date, amount, and terms of bond, and date of filing. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 25 x 15 x 10. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.

Maps and Plats

425. SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 189, TOWNSHIP 2, N. RANGE 9 and 10 W, 1934.  
1 map.

Political map of school district number 189, showing legal description and boundary lines of district, name of township, and locations of school buildings. Hand-drawn. Artist, R. F. Koch, deputy county surveyor. Sear-Ko Engineering Company, publisher. 30 x 38. Off. of supt. of sch., 2nd fl.



## XVI. SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS

From 1819 to 1849 the county commissioners' court exercised jurisdiction over roads and bridges in St. Clair County.<sup>1</sup> The commissioners were empowered to locate new roads, to alter or vacate old roads, to divide the county into road districts, and to appoint a supervisor in each district.<sup>2</sup> The construction and maintenance of roads were effected by means of a labor tax levied on all able-bodied men between the ages of eighteen and fifty years. It was the supervisors' duty to summon these men for work when road labor was needed.<sup>3</sup>

From 1849 to 1873, the county court in St. Clair County had the control and supervision of public roads and bridges. The substitution of this administrative body for the old county commissioners' court effected no material changes in the earlier set-up. The system of road districts was retained and work of superintending road construction and maintenance continued to be vested in district supervisors.<sup>4</sup>

In 1883 when St. Clair County adopted township organization, the care and superintendence of roads became the responsibility of the townships. In 1849 legislation enabling the adoption of this form of county government had provided for the election in each township of a highway commissioner and as many overseers of highways as there were road districts in the county. The commissioners at their annual meeting determined necessary action for establishing new roads and repairing, altering or vacating old roads; the overseers of highways were then required to carry out the commissioners' instructions.<sup>5</sup> With the exception of ten years when St. Clair County operated under the commissioner form of government, this system of road control and maintenance obtained until 1913;<sup>6</sup> in that year

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1. L.1819, p. 175.

2. Ibid., p. 333; L.1825, p. 130.

3. L.1819, p. 334.

4. L.1847, p. 111-13; L.1849, p. 65; L.1851, p. 149.

5. L.1849, p. 212.

6. The Constitution of 1870 had provided that in counties not under township organization, the governing board should be composed of three commissioners who should possess those powers delegated to them by law. Subsequent legislation vested supervision of highways, roads, and bridges in the board and intrusted the maintenance and superintendence of these public facilities to three highway commissioners elected in each road district for a term of three years. St. Clair County had this form of government for ten years between 1873 and 1883 (Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 6; L.1871-72, p. 679, 680; L.1873-74, p. 79).

## Superintendent of Highways

the office of the superintendent of highways was first established.<sup>1</sup> The boards of highway commissioners which existed prior to that date have continued to function, but their powers are principally subordinated to those of the superintendent of highways.

The superintendent is appointed by the county board. The board submits a list of three to five candidates to the State Department of Public Works and Buildings, which department examines the candidates to determine the person best fitted for the office.<sup>2</sup> The successful candidate holds office for six years and is remunerated in a sum fixed by the county board.

The powers and duties of the superintendent of highways come under the rules and regulations of the Department of Public Works and Buildings. However, the superintendent is subject, upon hearing, to removal by the county board. The superintendent exercised supervision over township, county, and state-aid roads, and bridges and culverts in his county and is required to perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the chief highway engineer of the state.<sup>3</sup>

His principal duties are as follows:

1. To prepare plans, specifications, and estimates for all bridges to be built by the county.
2. To supervise the construction and maintenance of county roads and bridges, and state-aid roads.
3. To inspect the highways and bridges in each town or district of his county at least once a year.
4. To advise and direct the highway commissioners in each town or district as to the best methods of repair, maintenance, and improvement of highways and bridges.
5. To approve any purchase in excess of \$200 for materials, machinery, or apparatus to be used in road construction in any town or district.<sup>4</sup>

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1. L.1913, p. 524.

2. L.1921, p. 781; L.1933, p. 961. From 1913 to 1917 the list was submitted to the State Highway Commission. In 1917 this state agency was abolished, and its rights, powers, and duties were vested in the Department of Public Works and Buildings, created in the same year (L.1913, p. 524; L.1917, p. 4,16,24).

3. L.1921, p. 782; L.1933, p. 961.

4. L.1913, p. 523-26.

Superintendent of Highways -  
Commissioners' Records;  
Construction and Maintenance Records

(426-429)

He is required to keep the following records:

1. Records of contracts, purchases, and expenditures authorized by himself, the county board, or township commissions.
2. Maps, plats, blueprints, specifications, etc., arising in his supervision of roads and bridges, or the planning of new construction.
3. Accounts of the funds handled by his office.
4. Reports from other officers or bodies touching upon the affairs of his office; copies of his own reports on the administration of his office; related papers.<sup>1</sup>

Commissioners' Records

426. ORIGINAL DEEDS FOR RIGHT OF WAY FOR PUBLIC ROADS, 1915--. 3 f.b. Deeds for public road right of ways, showing names of grantor and grantee, legal description of right of way, consideration, section number, date of filing, and signature of grantor. Arr. by sec. no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 12 x 14 x 24. File rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

427. COUNTY ROAD RECORD, 1796-1883. 1 v. Discontinued. Record of county roads, showing name and location of road, and section and township numbers. Arr. by twp. no. No index. Hdw. 82 p. 24 x 30 x 1. Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

Construction and Maintenance Records

428. ROADS, BRIDGES AND CULVERTS, 1915--. 265 plans. Construction plans of roads, bridges and culverts, showing location and description of improvement, profile grades and elevations, material specifications, and type of construction to be followed. Engineers, St. Clair County Highway Department, Belleville, Illinois. Hand-drawn and blueprint. 1 in. to 50 ft., 1 in to 100 ft. 22 x 36. Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

429. CONTRACTS, 1916--. 24 f.b. Contracts accepted by county for materials, supplies, road and bridge construction and repairs, showing name and address of contractor or firm, type of material, supplies, or work, proposed specifications, date, amounts and obligations of contractor's bond, and signature of superintendent of highways. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 14 x 12 x 24. Off. of supt. of hwys., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

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1. L.1913, p. 525.



Superintendent of Highways -  
Allotments and Claims;  
Reports

430. REQUISITIONS, 1935--. 3 bdl.

Superintendent's file of requisitions for supplies and materials, showing date, amount, purpose, and number of requisition, quantity and price of materials and supplies, and names of fund drawn upon and section receiving supplies. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 8 x 6 x 1. Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

431. TIME SHEETS, 1934--. 3 f.b.

Labor time sheets showing name, title, and address of employee, actual time worked, rate of pay, amount due, and remarks. Arr. chron. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 12 x 14 x 24. 2 f.b., 1934-36, file rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.; 1 f.b., 1937--, off. of supt. of hwys., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

Allotments and Claims

432. HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET DISTRIBUTION, 1915--. 24 v.

Budget record of distribution of highway funds, showing amount of appropriation, and amounts allocated to building, general office, material, incidental, and personal service funds. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 50 p. 24 x 36 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

433. MOTOR FUEL TAX CLAIMS, 1936--. 16 f.b. 1932-35 in Claims, entry 5.

Claims for labor, material, repairs, and purchase of new machinery, including invoices for same, showing date, number, purpose, and amount of claim, name, address, and affidavit of claimant, description of claim, and signatures of claim committee, county auditor, and superintendent of highways. Arr. by claim no. For index, see entry 434. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 4 x 18. Off. of supt. of hwys., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

434. CLAIM INDEX, 1936--. 1 v.

Index to and register of motor fuel tax claims, showing date, purpose, amount, and number of claim, name and address of claimant, and section number. Arr. by claim no. Hdw. 500 p. 14 x 4 x 4. Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

435. MOTOR FUEL TAX ALLOTMENT RECORD, 1927--. 4 v.

Register of motor fuel tax allotments, showing date, amount requested by county board, claim and receipt numbers, explanation, amounts received and disbursed, balance available, and section number. Arr. by section no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1000 p. 12 x 10 x 6. Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

Reports

436. ROAD COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, 1915--. 4 f.b.

Monthly reports of road commissioners, showing amount of work completed in each district, amount and cost of materials and labor, and date of report. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 15 x 11 x 19 - 12 x 14 x 24. 3 f.b., 1915-34, file rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.; 1 f.b., 1935--, off. of supt. of hwys., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

- 276 -  
 Surveys  
 (See also entry 441)

437. SURVEY RECORD, 1915--. 300 v. (1-300).

Record of road and bridge surveys, showing section number, location of road or bridge, amount of labor and material, and construction details. Arr. by sec. no. No index. Hdw. 100 p. 6 x 4 x 1. Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

Maps and Plats

438. RIGHT OF WAYS OF RAILROADS IN ST. CLAIR COUNTY, 1915--. 40 maps. Communication maps showing the right of ways of the railroads in St. Clair County, and names of railroad companies. Engineers, St. Clair County Highway Department, Belleville, Illinois. Hand-drawn and blueprint. 1 in. to 200 ft., 1 in. to 500 ft. 36 x 40. Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

439. TOWNSHIPS OF ST. CLAIR COUNTY, 1915--. 22 maps. Political and communication township maps showing boundary lines, and location of roads, bridges, culverts, railroads, and schools. Engineers, St. Clair County Highway Department, Belleville, Illinois. Hand-drawn. 1 in. to 500 ft. 24 x 24. Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

440. ST. CLAIR COUNTY ROADS, 1931--. 600 maps. Communication maps showing beginning and ending of brick, bituminous, macadam, graded, oiled, unimproved, and township roads. Engineer, R. C. McCurdy, Belleville, Ill. Hand-drawn. 1 in. to 1 mi. 24 x 24. Drafting rm., 1st fl., hwy. bldg.

XVII. SURVEYOR

The office of county surveyor after Illinois became a state,<sup>1</sup> was first established by law in 1821, the incumbent being an appointee of the General Assembly.<sup>2</sup> During recess of the legislature, nominations were made by the county commissioners' court to the Governor.<sup>3</sup> From 1835 to 1936, the county surveyor was an elected officer of the county electorate.<sup>4</sup>

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1. Prior to 1819, the surveyor was an appointee of the governors of the territories. Laws of the Territory of Illinois (1812), I, 33, made effective in Illinois Territory Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809 (1802), II, 25, 26.

2. L.1821, p. 62; R.L.1829, p. 172; R.L.1833, p. 591.

3. Ibid.

4. L.1835, p. 166; L.1837, p. 558; R.S.1845, p. 523; R.S.1874, p. 456, 1050; L.1903, p. 349.

Since September, 1936 he has been an appointee of the county board.<sup>1</sup> His appointment is for a four-year term. He takes and subscribes to an oath which is filed in the county clerk's office.

The surveyor is required by law to make all surveys within the bounds of his county that he may be called upon to make by the county board or interested persons. Such surveys include surveys of lands of persons requesting the same, of additions or subdivisions, and marking of county lines. Few changes have been made in the original statutory requirements for the duties of this office. The surveyor may appoint one or more deputies. Any individual requesting a survey must employ his own chainmen subject to the approval of the surveyor.

The surveyor is required by law to keep a well-bound book in which to record all surveys made by him, giving such information as the names of the persons whose land is surveyed and descriptive data of the survey. This record is required to be kept by the surveyor in the recorder's office. The surveyor also preserves his field notes and retains copies of plats.<sup>2</sup>

For record of road and bridge surveys, see entry 437.

#### 441. SURVEYOR'S RECORD, 1825--. 13 v. (A-I, A1-D1).

Recordation of original surveys made by the county surveyor, showing section, township, range, highway routes, date, and plat of survey, surveyor's name, and date of recording. 1 in. to 200 ft. Arr. chron. 1825-35, no index; for index, 1836--, see entry 167. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 300 p. 18 x 10 x 2. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl., hwy. bldg.

### XVIII. SPECIAL DRAINAGE COMMISSIONERS

For the purpose of aiding in public welfare and health, the constitution has delegated to the General Assembly broad power to provide laws in regard to drainage.<sup>3</sup> By statutory provision these activities are exercised by drainage commissioners in districts of St. Clair County. The corporate authorities of the drainage districts have power to acquire

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1. L.1933, p. 1104 (to be effective in 1936).
  2. L.1821, p. 63,64; R.L.1829, p. 173; R.L.1833, p. 591-93,599,600; L.1845, p. 201; R.S.1845, p. 524; R.S.1874, p. 1050; L.1885, p. 248; L.1915, p. 575; L.1933, p. 1104.
  3. Constitution of 1870, Art. IV, sec. 31.



right of ways, issue bonds, construct and maintain drains, ditches, and levees for agricultural, sanitary, or mining purposes, and assess the benefited property.<sup>1</sup>

Drainage districts may be organized by land owners upon petition to the county court. When the court finds in favor of the petitioners, it then enters an order to that effect and appoints three commissioners to examine and survey the proposed lands. The commissioners, when they have completed their assignment, make a final report to the court with recommendations and the copies of surveys, maps, plats, and estimates.<sup>2</sup> The districts are of three kinds: regular, which is composed of property lying in a single town; union, where the lands organized lie in two towns; and special, with three or more towns involved.<sup>3</sup> St. Clair County has a special drainage district.

After the report on a proposed district has been made, the court completes the organization of the district.<sup>4</sup> The corporate powers of regular and union districts are vested in three commissioners appointed by town clerks. The corporate authority in special drainage districts is vested in three elected commissioners of the district.<sup>5</sup> In regular districts the commissioners appoint one of their number to act as secretary. The town clerk in union districts acts as the clerk of the district. The county clerk and county treasurer, in cases of the special drainage districts are, respectively, ex-officio clerk<sup>6</sup> and treasurer<sup>7</sup> of each district.

The following records may be kept by the drainage commissioners:

1. Record of bonds issued.
2. Assessment books.
3. Petitions of owners of land to stay assessments, orders of commissioners thereupon, and other proceedings.
4. State auditor's certificates of interest due on bonds.

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1. First amendment to the constitution, ratified November 29, 1878, incorporated in the Constitution of 1870, Art. IV, sec. 31; L.1879, p. 120,124-28.
  2. L.1871-72, p. 356; R.S.1874, p. 429; L.1875, p. 76; L.1879, p. 120, 155; L.1885, p. 77,93,95,108; L.1907, p. 274; L.1913, p. 260.
  3. L.1879, p. 123; L.1885, p. 93,94,113. River districts, though not in this category, may be organized similarly and with like powers. L.1885, p. 106.
  4. See footnote 3.
  5. L.1879, p. 123; L.1885, p. 93,95,113.
  6. L.1885, p. 95; L.1915, p. 390; L.1919, p. 468.
  7. L.1885, p. 78,104.

5. Tax lists showing pro-rata share of levy for bond interest (union and special districts only).
6. Copies of reports to county court on condition of district and estimated expenditures; and to county treasurer on delinquent lands; maps and plats, surveys and estimates; office transactions.<sup>1</sup>

The first two records are required to be kept in separate books, the next three generally are known as the "Drainage Record," and the remaining records are kept desultorily.

For other drainage records, see entires 45-51, 177.

442. DRAINAGE DISTRICT (No. 1), 1883--. 8 v. (1, 1 not numbered, 1-5, 2). Missing: 1888-1906. Last entry 1909.

Assessment roll for drainage district number one, showing date of assessment, name and address of owner, legal description and assessed valuation of property, tax spread, amount of payment, and dates payment due and paid. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 50 - 720 p. 16 x 11 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 17 x 17 x 2. 1 v., 1883-86, co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.; 1 v. not numbered, v. 1-5, 2, 1887-1909, common vlt., bsmt.

443. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS EAST SIDE LEVEE AND SANITARY DISTRICT, 1907--. 1 f.b. (507).

Annual report of board of commissioners of East Side levee and sanitary district, showing date, amounts of receipts and expenditures, balance available, purpose of expenditure, acknowledgment, and signature of clerk of board. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 5 x 18. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

444. EAST SIDE LEVEE AND SANITARY DISTRICT 1917. 7 plans.

Construction plans of the proposed channel for Cahokia Creek, showing proposed location, route, and dimensions of channel. Blueprint. 1 in. to 5000 ft. 70 x 80. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

445. PRAIRIE DUPONT LEVY-DRAINAGE DISTRICT, 1893-1914. 1 v.

List of property owners in Prairie Dupont drainage district, showing date, name of owner, legal description of property, assessed value, amount of tax levied, and amounts of damages awarded property owner. Arr. alph. by name of owner. No index. Hdw. and typed. 301 p. 14 x 10 x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ . Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

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1. L.1879, p. 120-34; L.1885, p. 78-104.

446. MILLSTADT SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM DISTRICT 31, 1930. 1 v.  
Lists of property benefited or damaged by Millstadt sewer system, showing date, name of owner, estimated amount of benefit or damage, amount of assessment to be charged or compensation to be paid owners, legal description of property, and subdivision number. Arr. by subdivision no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 29 p. 16 x 20 x 1. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

447. MILLSTADT SEWER DISTRICT, 1929. 10 maps.  
Detailed construction maps of Millstadt sewer, showing beginning and ending point, legal description of lands and lots served by sewer, and locations of manholes. Consulting engineers, Russel & Axon. St. Louis, Missouri and Springfield, Illinois: Eugene Dietzgen, publisher. Blueprint. 1 in. to 200 ft. 36 x 40. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

448. RICHLAND CREEK AND NORTH RICHLAND CREEK DRAINAGE DISTRICT, 1911--. 11 plans.  
Profile and cross-sectional plans of Richland Creek and North Richland Creek drainage district, showing dimensions, specifications, and construction details. Draftsman, W. C. Wolf, Belleville, Illinois. Hand-drawn. Blueprint. 1 ft. to 300 ft. 30 x 92. Co. clk.'s large vlt., 1st fl.

449. DUPO TOWNSHIP (Village) SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENT, 1930.  
1 map.  
Construction map of Dupo sanitary sewer improvement, showing beginning and ending point, legal description of lands and lots served by sewer, and locations of manholes. Draftsmen, Schwaab & Sheppard, Chicago, Illinois. Blueprint. 1 in. to 200 ft. 36 x 40. Co. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

450. (LISTS OF SWAMP LANDS), 1844-66. In (Miscellaneous Files), entry 131D1.  
Lists of swamp lands, showing date, description of land, number of acres, to whom sold, amount received, and signature of county clerk.

## XIX. VETERINARIAN

The office of veterinarian was created by statute in 1925 for counties willing to appropriate funds for the maintenance and employment of a veterinarian. As a prerequisite the county must enter into a co-operative agreement with the Federal and State Departments of Agriculture for the control and eradication of bovine tuberculosis. The veterinarian, under the direction of the latter body, conducts tuberculin tests, keeps records thereof, and reports to the state department.<sup>1</sup>

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1. L.1925, p. 2-9.



Specific provision was not made under the original act for the method of selection. In 1929, however, it was provided that the veterinarian was to be appointed by the county board of supervisors upon approval of the State Department of Agriculture.<sup>1</sup>

For card record of tuberculin tests as reported by veterinarian, see entry 400.

451. REPORT OF T.B. ERADICATION WORK DONE IN ST. CLAIR COUNTY, 1936--.  
29 folders.

Copies of county veterinarian's reports to county board and to Department of Agriculture, showing number of herds tested, number of reactor, infected, and objector cattle, dates of starting and completion of tests, name and address of owner, name and location of farm, and signature of veterinarian. Arr. alph. by name of township. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 14 x 9 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Vet.'s off., Columbia, Monroe County.

452. RESULT OF TUBERCULIN TEST, 1936--. 5 folders.

Original tuberculin test sheets showing name and address of owner of cattle, dates of test, injection, and reading, predominating breed, number of healthy cattle, reactors, and suspects, and tag number. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 10 x 7 x 1. Vet.'s off., Columbia, Monroe County.

## XX. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Matters relating to public assistance and welfare in the county are handled by the department of public welfare, which was established in 1937 as successor to the county commission of public welfare.<sup>2</sup> This department consists of the superintendent of public welfare and a staff selected by him in accordance with, and subject to, the approval of the State Department of Public Welfare.

The county board submits to the state department a list of five residents as candidates for the office of superintendent. An eligible list of these candidates is prepared by the state department by competitive examination and certified to the county board. The board in turn makes an order appointing one of the eligibles as superintendent of public welfare.<sup>3</sup>

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1. L.1929, p. 7-12.

2. L.1935-36, First Sp.Sess., p. 70-73; L.1937, p. 451.

3. L.1937, p. 451,452.

The superintendent is charged with all the executive and administrative duties and responsibilities of the department of public welfare. He is subject to the rules and regulations of, and removal by, the state agency.<sup>1</sup>

This officer has power and it is his duty to:

1. Have charge and develop plans for the administration of old age assistance.
2. Investigate and study problems of assistance, correction, and general welfare within his county.
3. Cooperate with the State Department of Public Welfare in the operation of welfare plans and policies in his county.
4. Maintain such records and file such reports with the State Department of Public Welfare as that department may require.
5. Serve as agent and executive officer of the State Department of Public Welfare in the administration of all forms of public assistance administered by that department.<sup>2</sup>

All the records of the county department are subject to the inspection and supervision of the agents of this central authority.

The department of public welfare administers old age assistance and is subject to the rules and regulations of the state department.<sup>3</sup> Upon receipt of an application the department makes an investigation of the case. In the course of the investigation the department is allowed to hold hearings and compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of papers and books.<sup>4</sup>

Old age assistance records and accounts are kept as prescribed by the state department. All applications and records in these matters are considered public records.<sup>5</sup>

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1. L.1937, p. 452.

2. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 72; L.1937, p. 452.

3. L.1935, p. 259,260; L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 54,55; L.1937, p. 265.

4. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 57-59; L.1937, p. 267,268.

5. L.1937, p. 268,269.

453. OLD AGE ASSISTANCE CASES, 1936--. 6 f.b.

Record of old age assistance cases, including applications, showing name and address of applicant, number of years of residence in county, state, and the United States, marital status, list and value of property owned, application number, financial and occupational particulars, dates of application and filing, and notarized affidavit. Arr. alph. by name of twp. and by application no. For index, see entry 454. Typed on pr. fm. 18 x 24 x 48. Off. of supt. of public welfare, Arcade Bldg., East St. Louis.

454. CARD INDEX TO OLD AGE ASSISTANCE CASES, 1936--. 14 f.b.

Card index to old age assistance cases, showing certificate and application numbers, names and addresses of applicant and investigator, district number, and dates of application, approval, grant, denial, and discharge. Arr. alph. by name of applicant. Typed and hdw. on pr. fm. 8 x 5 x 12. Off. of supt. of public welfare, Arcade Bldg., East St. Louis.

455. REGISTER SHEET, 1936--. 1 v.

Register of old age assistance cases, showing date and number of application, name, address, and age of applicant, dates of investigation and presentation to county commission, reason for denial, date sent to state office, amount of award, and date of closing. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 14 x 9 x 2. Off. of supt. of public welfare, Arcade Bldg., East St. Louis.

## XXI. COUNTY HOME

One phase of public assistance is administered by the county home. All county poorhouses, poor farms, and institutions for the support and care of indigents in Illinois are known as county homes.<sup>1</sup> County poorhouses and farms have existed in this state under statutory provisions for nearly a century. The legislation creating these county establishments for the indigent has changed little since the original enactments. The county boards of the various counties may establish a county home, and are granted the following powers:

1. To acquire by purchase, grant, gift, or devise, a suitable tract or tracts upon which to erect and maintain a county poorhouse and other necessary buildings, and for the establishment and maintenance of a farm for the employment of the poor.
2. To receive gifts and bequests to aid in the erection and maintenance of the poorhouse, or in the care of the indigents.

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1. L.1919, p. 699; L.1935, p. 1058,



3. To make rules or regulations for the same.
4. To appoint a keeper of the poorhouse and all necessary agents and servants for the management and control of the poorhouse and farm, and to prescribe their compensation and duties.
5. To appoint a county physician and prescribe his compensation and duties.
6. To appoint an agent to have the general supervision and charge of all matters in relation to the care and support of the poor, and to prescribe his compensation and duties.
7. To make the necessary appropriations for the erection and maintenance of the county home.<sup>1</sup>

Records of the county home are prepared and kept by the keeper (superintendent) of the home. He is required to keep an account showing the name of each person admitted to the county poorhouse, the time of his admission and discharge, the place of his birth, and the cause of his dependency. He is also required, at the same time each year, to file with the county clerk of his county a copy of this record together with a statement showing the average number of persons kept in the poorhouse each month during the year.<sup>2</sup>

For records of county home expense, see entries 5, 396.

#### 456. PERMITS, 1904--. 4 f.b.

Permits of inmates to enter county home, showing name and last address of inmate, personal particulars, name of township, date, and signature of overseer. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 14 x 16 x 24. Supt.'s off., 1st fl.

#### 457. RECORD OF INMATES, 1904--. 1 f.b.

Record of inmates of county home, showing name and age of inmate, financial and personal statistics, date, and name of nearest relative. Arr. alph. by name of inmate. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 5 x 6 x 12. Supt.'s off., 1st fl.

#### 458. REGISTER OF INMATES, 1904--. 1 v.

Register of inmates, showing name of inmate, personal particulars, dates of admittance, discharge, or death, name of township, order of overseer, and name of nearest relative. Arr. chron. For index, see entry 459. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 16 x 14 x 3. Supt.'s off., 1st fl.

#### 459. INDEX TO REGISTER OF INMATES, 1904--. 1 v.

Index to register of inmates, showing name of inmate, date of admittance, and book and page number. Arr. alph. by name of inmate. No index. Hdw. 200 p. 16 x 8 x 1. Supt.'s off., 1st fl.

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1. L.1839, p. 139; R.S.1845, p. 404,405; L.1861, p. 180; R.S.1874, p. 757; L.1917, p. 638; L.1919, p. 698; L.1935, p. 1057,1058.

2. R.S.1874, p. 758.

## XXII. TUBERCULOSIS SANITARIUM BOARD

In 1909 the powers of the county were extended to permit the establishment of a sanitarium for the care and treatment of county residents suffering from tuberculosis.<sup>1</sup> This provision was greatly amplified in an act of 1915 which described in detail the conditions necessary to the establishment of such an institution and the manner in which it was to be supported, managed, and controlled.<sup>2</sup>

The act provided that whenever one hundred legal voters in a county should petition the county board to levy a tax for the establishment and maintenance of a tuberculosis sanitarium, the board was required to submit the question to the voters of the county at the next regular general election. A favorable majority of all votes cast upon the proposition was necessary for adoption.<sup>3</sup> In the original legislation of 1915, the amount of the tax levy was limited to not more than three mills on the dollar annually on all taxable property in the county.<sup>4</sup> This limit was lowered in 1923 to two mills,<sup>5</sup> and further reduced in 1929 to one and one-half mills,<sup>6</sup> the present statutory requirement. The money thus received was to be set apart in a special Tuberculosis Sanitarium Fund.<sup>7</sup>

The management of the sanitarium fund was vested in a board of three directors appointed by the president or chairman of the county board with the approval of that body. The directors were to serve for three years.<sup>8</sup> Vacancies on the board were to be filled in the manner in which original appointments were made. Immediately after their appointment, the directors were required to meet and elect from their number a president, secretary, and such other officers as they might deem necessary.<sup>9</sup> The St. Clair County electorate voted on November 3, 1936 for the levying of a tax to establish such an institution; at the November meeting of the board of supervisors the first board of directors was appointed.<sup>10</sup>

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1. L.1909, p. 162.
  2. L.1915, p. 346-49.
  3. Ibid., p. 346,347.
  4. Ibid., p. 346.
  5. L.1923, p. 302.
  6. L.1929, p. 304.
  7. L.1915, p. 346; L.1923, p. 302; L.1929, p. 304,305.
  8. The first three directors, however, were required to serve for irregular terms of one, two, and three years in order to permit the appointment of one new director annually. Choice of terms was decided by lot (L.1915, p. 347).
  9. L.1915, p. 347.
  10. Supervisors' Records, v. 24, p. 83.

Today the powers and duties of the board of directors are essentially the same as in 1915. The directors have been given broad powers in the control and management of any sanitarium, all dispensaries, or auxiliary institutions, and activities established or carried on under the provisions of the act of 1915 and subsequent legislation.<sup>1</sup> They are granted exclusive control of the expenditure of all moneys collected to the credit of the fund and may receive, in the name of the county, contributions or donations to the sanitarium of money or property. Persons desiring to make a donation, bequest, or devise of any money, personal property, or real estate may vest the title to such property in the board of directors who, upon acceptance, hold and control it and act as special trustees. Otherwise, all moneys received for the use of the sanitarium are deposited in the county treasury within a month after their receipt, to be drawn only by the proper officers upon presentation of properly authenticated vouchers of the board of directors. When such a deposit is made the board is required to secure a receipt from the treasurer.<sup>2</sup>

Since 1923, to insure greater working efficiency, counties maintaining tuberculosis sanitariums have been permitted to convey property to any adjacent county or counties upon such terms and conditions as the respective county boards agree on by a majority vote of all members of each board. In the same year it was also provided that counties without public tuberculosis facilities might use funds secured for that purpose to give patients sanitarium care in private or public sanitariums of the state.<sup>3</sup>

The directors are required to report monthly to the county board on conditions in the sanitarium. They also return to that body a monthly list of the names of all persons making contributions and donations, the amount and nature of the property so received, and the date of its receipt. On or before the second Monday in June in each year, the directors make an annual report to the county board, stating the condition of their trust on the first day of June, the various sums of money received from all sources and how and for what purpose expended, the number of patients, and other pertinent statistics, information, and suggestions.<sup>4</sup>

460. CASE RECORD, 1937--. 7 f.b.

Files of tuberculosis cases, showing name and address of patient, personal particulars, marital status, name of physician, previous case history, type of case, date of treatments, and whether active or arrested case. Arr. alph. by name of patient. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 12 x 14 x 24. Off. of Dr. Robinson Bosworth, 6th fl., First Nat'l. Bank Bldg.

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1. L.1915, p. 346-49; L.1923, p. 302,303; L.1929, p. 304,305.  
Cf. R.S.1937, p. 956-59.
  2. L.1915, p. 347-49.
  3. L.1923, p. 303.
  4. L.1915, p. 348,349.



461. CASE RECORD, 1937--. 1 v.

Record of tuberculosis cases, showing name and address of patient, financial and personal statistics, name of physician, previous case history, date of treatments, and whether an active or arrested case. Arr. alph. by name of patient. No index. Hdw. 200 p. 12 x 10 x 1. Off. of Dr. Robinson Bosworth, 6th fl., First Nat'l Bank Bldg.

462. CORRESPONDENCE, 1937--. 1 f.b.

Correspondence to and from Dr. Robinson Bosworth relative to building a sanitarium, and copies of speeches made by Dr. Bosworth. Arr. alph. by name of correspondent. No index. Hdw. and typed. 12 x 14 x 24. Off. of Dr. Robinson Bosworth, 6th fl., First Nat'l Bank Bldg.

### XXIII. JUVENILE DETENTION HOME

The fact that juvenile delinquents constitute a class of criminals entitled to special consideration under the law has been recognized in Illinois from the early days of statehood. According to the revised criminal code of 1827, "infants" under ten years were not to be found guilty of any crime or misdemeanor, and no person under the age of fourteen could be held responsible for a criminal act unless he knew the difference between right and wrong.<sup>1</sup> Later, in 1833, the General Assembly abolished penitentiary sentences for offenders under eighteen except in cases of robbery, burglary, or arson. For all other crimes punishable by imprisonment, juvenile delinquents were to be confined in the county jail for a period not exceeding eighteen months.<sup>2</sup>

In 1867 the General Assembly provided for the establishment and maintenance of an institution "for the discipline, education, employment and reformation of juvenile offenders and vagrants between the ages of eight and eighteen years . . ."<sup>3</sup> Under this act, courts of competent jurisdiction could exercise their discretion in sentencing juvenile offenders either to the county jail, in accordance with the existing law, or

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1. R.L.1827, p. 124.

2. R.L.1833, p. 209.

3. L.1867, p. 38. The act was amended in 1873 to apply only to boys between the ages of ten and sixteen years (L.1873, p. 147); in 1891 the upper age limit was extended to twenty-one years (L.1891, p. 54); and in 1915 the institution was set aside for youths between the ages of sixteen and twenty-six years (L.1915, p. 560). By that time, the Illinois State Home for Delinquent Boys had been established for boys between the ages of ten and sixteen years (L.1901, p. 68,69). It has subsequently been called the St. Charles School for Boys (L.1905-06, p. 87).

to the State Reform School, as the institution was called at that time. The act repealed those sections of the revised statutes of 1845 which permitted the courts to impose penitentiary sentences upon persons under eighteen convicted of burglary, arson, or robbery.<sup>1</sup> In 1893 the General Assembly established the State Home for Juvenile Female Offenders.<sup>2</sup> Prior to that year, the General Assembly had provided that delinquent girls under sixteen years of age could be sent to the reform school in Chicago if the guardians of that school were willing to receive them,<sup>3</sup> and, two years later, that the trustees of the State Reform School might create a special department in the school for girls if such action seemed advisable.<sup>4</sup> The act of 1893 stated that whenever a girl between the ages of ten and sixteen<sup>5</sup> was convicted of any offence which, if committed by an adult, would be punishable by confinement in a house of correction or county jail, she might be committed to the state home or to the house of correction or county jail at the discretion of the court.<sup>6</sup>

An act of 1899 vested original jurisdiction over dependent, neglected, and delinquent children in the county and circuit courts.<sup>7</sup> The act prescribed regulations for the treatment, control, maintenance, adoption, and guardianship of such children;<sup>8</sup> provided for the establishment, in counties having more than five hundred thousand inhabitants, of a branch of the regular circuit court to try juvenile cases in a separate court room;<sup>9</sup> and authorized the appointment of juvenile probation officers to assist the courts in dealing with children coming under the provisions of the act.<sup>10</sup>

County detention homes for the temporary care and custody of dependent, delinquent, or truant children are of comparatively recent origin. Legislation authorizing the establishment of such homes was first enacted in 1907.<sup>11</sup> The act provided that upon petition to the county judge by twenty-five percent of the legal voters voting at the preceding general election, the question of levying a tax for the establishment and maintenance of a juvenile detention home should be submitted to the county electorate at the next regular general election. If a majority of the voters favored adoption, the county board was authorized to levy such a tax.<sup>12</sup>

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1. L.1867, p. 42-44.
  2. L.1893, p. 24. The name was changed in 1901 to the State Training School for Girls (L.1901, p. 62).
  3. L.1867, p. 42.
  4. L.1869, p. 328.
  5. In 1901 the upper age limit was increased to eighteen (L.1901, p. 62).
  6. L.1893, p. 27.
  7. L.1899, p. 132.
  8. Ibid., p. 131-37.
  9. Ibid., p. 132.
  10. Ibid., p. 133.
  11. L.1907, p. 59-62.
  12. Ibid., p. 61, 62.

The act states that the home shall be arranged, furnished, and conducted in a manner approximating conditions in a family home. During the period of their detention, the children are taught those subjects contained in the regular school curriculum for the first eight grades.<sup>1</sup>

Management of the home is vested in a matron, or superintendent and matron, appointed by the county judge, to serve during his pleasure. Additional help may be employed if he deems it necessary. All appointments, however, are subject to the approval of the county board, and the amount of salary paid to each employee is also set by that body. The superintendent or matron is required to receive and detain temporarily all children committed to the home by the court until further order of the court and to keep a complete record of every child so detained. The superintendent also keeps a record of all expenditures made by the county for the care and maintenance of the home and makes an annual report to the county board of all expenses necessary to maintain the institution together with a list of the number of children detained there each month. A copy of this report is filed with the county clerk.<sup>2</sup>

Although the board of supervisors in St. Clair County made provision for the establishment of such a home in 1921,<sup>3</sup> no records appear until 1922.

For reports of detention home fund, see entry 33.

463. REGISTER OF INMATES, 1922--. 1 v. (1).

Register of inmates, showing date of admittance, former residence, name of child, personal particulars, date of court term, name of institution, name, address, and occupation of person to whom child is paroled, and date of dismissal. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of inmate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 460 p. 18 x 14 x 3. Supt.'s off., 1st fl.

464. ATTENDANCE RECORD, 1924--. 1 v. (1).

Register of inmates, showing name of inmate, date of entrance, length of time in institution, date of dismissal, and remarks. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 18 x 14 x 3. Supt.'s off., 1st fl.

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1. L.1907, p. 60.

2. Ibid., p. 60, 61.

3. Supervisors' Record, v. 13, p. 558.



## XXIV. FARM BUREAU

The St. Clair County farm bureau was organized on June 1, 1919, to promote and foster the social and economic interest of persons engaged in agriculture, and to encourage, promote, and foster cooperative organizations for the mutual benefit of its members. The membership of this bureau is open to all farmers in St. Clair County, and is governed by an executive committee. The executive committee is elected by two townships combining and the members of these two townships elect one committee-man. Nine members form an executive committee. The executive committee elects the officers from said committee. A farm advisor is employed who cooperated with the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in its program of extension education and farm studies, and works with farm leaders in establishing such organizations as 4-H clubs and Dairy Herd Improvement Associations.

In 1914 Congress inaugurated a program of agricultural extension education by providing for cooperation between the agricultural colleges in the several states and the United States Department of Agriculture.<sup>1</sup> The purpose of the act was to aid in diffusing useful and practical information on subjects relating to agriculture and home economics, and to encourage the application of the same. An appropriation was made to each state to carry out the act, subject to the assent by the state legislature to the provisions of the act, which provided that the state appropriate a sum equal to that given by the Federal Government.<sup>2</sup> The General Assembly assented to this act by a joint resolution which authorized and empowered the trustees of the University of Illinois to receive the grants of money appropriated under the act, and organize and conduct agricultural extension work in connection with the College of Agriculture of the university.<sup>3</sup>

The General Assembly appropriated money in 1917 for the payment of county agricultural advisors.<sup>4</sup> The money was to be appropriated to the Department of Agriculture to be distributed equally among the several county agricultural advisors of the state to apply upon their salaries. The vouchers approved by the Department of Agriculture for payment were to be accompanied by the certificate of the agricultural college of the University of Illinois that the requirements of the act relative to the employment of county advisors had been substantially applied. In 1928, to further develop the cooperative extension system in agriculture and home economics, Congress appropriated additional sums of money, eighty percent of which was to be utilized for the payment of salaries of extension agents in counties of the several states.<sup>5</sup>

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1. U.S.S. at Large, v. 38, p. 372.

2. Ibid., p. 373.

3. L.1915, Joint Resolutions, p. 732.

4. L.1917, p. 85.

5. U.S.S. at Large, v. 45, p. 711.

## 465. CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS, 1934--. 1 v.

Register of receipts and disbursements, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt or disbursement, date and amount of bank deposits, account credited, name of recipient or payer, total amount of receipts and disbursements, balance available, and recapitulation of accounts. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 10 x 18 x 1. Off. of farm advisor, 1st fl.

## 466. CASH RECEIPT AND SALES JOURNAL (Classification of Sales and Purchases, and Check Register), 1934--. 1 v.

Register of cash receipts and journal of sales, showing amount of cash received, bank debits, accounts receivable, date of orders, accounts credited, cost, and quantity of virus, serum, drugs, and instruments purchased, and balance available. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 100 p. 10 x 20 x 1. Off. of farm advisor, 1st fl.

## 467. CHECK RECORD, 1934--. 1 v.

Register of checks issued against various funds, including record of bank deposits, showing date, amount of deposits, fund credited, date, amount, number, and purpose of check, fund drawn upon, total amount of credits and debits in each fund, balance available in various funds, and total balance available. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 100 p. 8 x 15 x 1. Off. of farm advisor, 1st fl.

## 468. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1934--. 4 f.d.

Miscellaneous correspondence of farm advisor and farm bureau, showing date, name and address of correspondent, signature of sender, and date of letter. Arr. alph. by name of correspondent. No index. Typed. 16 x 12 x 24. Off. of farm advisor, 1st fl.

## 469. ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU ACCOUNT LEDGER, 1934--. 1 v.

Register of daily cash receipts and expenditures, showing account debited or credited, date, amount, and purpose of receipt or disbursement, volume labeling and page of entry in record, total amount of receipts and disbursements, and balance available. Arr. alph. by title of fund. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 10 x 12 x 1. Off. of farm advisor, 1st fl.

## 470. ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU ACCOUNT LEDGER (Patron's Account Ledger and General Ledger), 1934--. 1 v.

Patron's account with farm bureau, showing name and address of patron, date, amount of serum purchased, page of entry in sales ledger, and whether serum or virus; general ledger showing date, amount and purpose of receipt or disbursement, name of recipient or payer, total receipts and disbursements, and balance available. Arr. alph. by name of patron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 10 x 15 x 4. Off. of farm advisor, 1st fl.

## 471. ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU MEMBERSHIP RECORD, 1934--. 1 v.

Register of members, showing name and address of member, township number, date, amount of dues paid, amount of insurance carried, amount of fee sent to Illinois Agricultural Association, and amount received by farm bureau. Arr. alph. by name of member. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 10 x 18 x 3. Off. of farm advisor, 1st fl.





## APPENDIX

### The Perrin Collection

The early St. Clair records on exhibit in the recorder's vault, second floor, in the courthouse annex, or Highway Building, are known as the Perrin Collection, so named for J. Nick Perrin, their official custodian. Mr. Perrin, a resident of Belleville, and a well-known scholar and authority on Illinois history, discovered these records in the courthouse basement, several years ago. Due to the damp and dust, many of these historically important and original documents were in such poor condition, that Mr. Perrin persuaded the county board of supervisors to permit him to segregate and catalog them. Many tedious hours were required to sort and arrange these papers; brittle with age, many had to be handled with knives. After the arranging and cataloging had been completed, Mr. Perrin, by consent of the county board was named sole custodian. The records of the Collection are:

A. INDEX TO OLD RECORDS IN COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE AND COUNTY MUSEUM, 1709-Civil War Period. 1 v.

Index to various documents in Perrin Collection and county records in museum, showing type, date, and number of document, and number of shelf and file. The records, 1709-99, covered by this index are missing. The exact ending date of this index could not be determined as Mr. Perrin does not wish the seal broken. Arr. by shelf and file nos. Hdw. 152 p. 10 x 14 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

B. JAIL REPORTS, POOR HOUSE REPORTS, 1830-50. 1 bdl.

Missing: 1790-1829, 1851-93. 1894-- in Supervisor Proceedings (Files), entry 1.

Reports of jail and poor house committees to county board of commissioners on conditions of these buildings, showing date, existing conditions, committee's recommendation, and signatures of members of committee. Arr. chron. For index, see A. Hdw. Documents in poor condition. 8 x 10 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

C. BONDS, 1819-46. 3 bdl. Missing: 1847-60. 1861-- in Bonds (Miscellaneous), entry 122.

Bonds of county officers, showing date, amount, number, and obligations of bond, name of officer, and signatures of sureties. Arr. chron. For index, see A. Hdw., and hdw. on pr. fm. Documents in poor condition. 8 x 4 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

- D. CAPIAS ON INDICTMENTS, 1819-47. 4 bdl. 1790-1818, 1848-92 in Law Cases (Files), entry 265; 1893-- in The People (Criminal Files), entry 273.

Capias on indictments issued by clerk, showing venue, names of plaintiff and defendant, nature of indictment, officers to whom directed, amount of bail, certificate of clerk, and sheriff's return. Arr. by case no. For index, see A. Hdw. on pr. fm. Documents in poor condition. 8 x 4 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

- E. SUBPOENAS, 1819-50. 16 bdl.

Subpoenas issued by clerk of court, showing venue, names and addresses of parties to be subpoenaed, time and place of appearance, names of plaintiff and defendant, clerk's certificate, book, page, and line of entry, term date, sheriff's fees, and sheriff's return. Arr. by document no. For index, see A. Hdw. on pr. fm. Documents in very poor condition. 8 x 10 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

For prior documents, see entry 265; for subsequent documents, see entries 265, 270, 273.

- F. RECOGNIZANCE, 1809-51. 14 bdl. 1790-1808, 1852-92 in Law Cases (Files), entry 265; 1893-- in The People (Criminal Files), entry 273.

Recognizance bonds showing date, number, amount, and obligations of bond, names of defendant and court, and signatures of sureties. Arr. by bond no. For index, see A. Hdw. 8 x 10 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

- G. SUMMONS, 1820-51. 3 bdl.

Summonses issued by clerk of court, showing venue, address, parties to be summoned, time and place of appearance, names of defendants, certificate of clerk, and sheriff's return. Arr. by document no. For index, see A. Hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm. Documents in poor condition. 8 x 10 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

For prior summons, see entries 265, 273; for subsequent summons, see entries 265, 270, 273.

- H. INDICTMENTS, 1819-61. 16 bdl. 1790-1818, 1862-92 in Law Cases (Files), entry 265; 1893-- in The People (Criminal Files), entry 273.

Indictments in criminal cases, showing date, names of plaintiff, defendant, and witnesses, nature of indictment, true bill endorsement, signature of foreman of grand jury, list of witnesses, impaneling of grand jurors, date of commission of crime, and signature of state's attorney. Arr. by document no. For index, see A. Hdw. Documents in very poor condition. 8 x 4 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

- J. EXECUTIONS, 1801-60. 40 bdl.

Original executions showing date of court term, date and number of execution, amount of judgment, fine, costs, and sheriff's fees, and name of defendant. Arr. by document no. For index, see A. Hdw. on pr. fm. 8 x 10 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

- K. GRANT OF SCHOOL LAND, 1830-48. 1 bdl.

Certificates of sale of original lands granted to school districts, showing date and amount of sale, location and legal description of land, names of grantee and grantor, and signatures of Governor, secretary of state, and auditor of public accounts. Arr. by grant no. For index, see A. Hdw. on

## L. MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS, 1800-1875. 120 bdl.

Original documents including promissory notes, sheriff's sales, reports of sales, appraisements, fee bills, declarations in trespass, affidavit, motion for new trial, and resignation of constable. Arr. by document no. For index, see A. Hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm. 8 x 4 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## M. RECORD OF COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ST. CLAIR COUNTY, INDIANA TERRITORY, 1793-1808. 4 pamphlets, 1793-1801, 1805-8; 1 v., 1801-4. Title varies: Docket of the Court of Common Pleas of St. Clair County - Territory of the United States, Northwest of the Ohio River, 1 pamphlet, 1793-96; Minutes Court of Common Pleas of St. Clair County - Territory of the United States Northwest of the Ohio River, 1 pamphlet, 1797-99; Record of the Court of Common Pleas of St. Clair County - Territory of the United States, Northwest of the Ohio River, also Indiana Territory, 1 pamphlet, 1799-1801.

Record of court of common pleas, showing list of court officers and grand jurors, copies of indictments, orders concerning building of roads, repairing fences around salt pits, appointment of guards at ferries, orders for confiscation of goods brought over from Spanish side, and all other business appearing before court. Arr. by date of court term. No index. Hdw. 50 - 200 p. 15 x 9 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 14 x 8 x 2.

## N. RECORD OF THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF CAHOKIA, 1778-87. 1 v.

Record of the proceedings of the Cahokia district court, showing date of court term, proceedings of court, names of jurors, nature of action, and all other business coming before court. This record is written in French. Arr. by date of court term. No index. Hdw. Condition poor. 200 p. 14 x 18 x 2.





CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX

(All figures refer to entry numbers; underscoring indicates the ending of a record in the decade under which it is listed)

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New Records

App. A

1770-1779

New Records

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Records Beginning in Preceding Decade

App. A

1780-1789

New Records

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Records Beginning in Preceding Decades

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1790-1799

New Records

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1810-1819

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## Records Beginning in Preceding Decades

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## Records Beginning in Preceding Decades

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1830-1839

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## Records Beginning in Preceding Decades

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## Records Beginning in Preceding Decades

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243, 252, 255, 260, 264, 265, 269-271, 276, 279-281, 285, 289,  
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